

Governors start collecting signatures today

County bosses launch Pesa Mashinani drive as DP says it's time for work, not politics **P2**



SATURDAY NATION

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HISTORY IN THE MAKING | This is the first time a sitting Head of State will stand in the dock over crimes against humanity

ICC summons Uhuru



ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda.

■ Judges adjourn hearing of case indefinitely and order President to appear at The Hague on October 8

■ Kenyatta and AG expected to respond to prosecutor's complaints that Kenya is not complying with requests for evidence **Story on Page 6**

WESTGATE ONE YEAR LATER

Why Karangi and Kimaiyo stand accused over massacre

BY NATION TEAM
newsdesk@ke.nationmedia.com

Yesterday we mourned the dead and celebrated the heroes.

Today we condemn the men who slept on the job. Step forward Gen Julius Karangi and Mr David Kimaiyo.

We hope by now Kenya's leadership has had a chance to watch the documentary that chronicles the terror visited upon innocent civilians at the Westgate Mall.

The footage and the accounts of the survivors are a tale of a nation without a



Gen Karangi

security system. A helpless people at the mercy of unfeeling killers.

Minutes after the terrorists struck, the security chiefs told



David Kimaiyo

Kenyans that the situation was under control, and that elite forces had been deployed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



PHOTO | PSCU

President Uhuru Kenyatta (centre), Devolution and Planning Cabinet Secretary Anne Waiguru and Nairobi Governor Evans Kidero leave Kibera slums in Nairobi after flagging off a clean-up in the area by the National Youth Service yesterday. Mr Kenyatta later left for an official visit in the US.

INDEX News **P. 2-11**

Opinion **P. 12-15**

Letters **P. 14**

Weekend **P. 19,20,34-37**

International **P. 38-40**

Business **P. 41-43**

Sport **P. 46-52**

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REFERENDUM | Leaders want to place 12 questions to the people for consideration

Governors fire first salvo in vote push

County chiefs begin collecting signatures to kick-start bid for constitutional amendment

BY NATION TEAM
newsdesk@ke.nationmedia.com

Governors will today officially start collecting signatures in their bid for a constitutional amendment.

This is the first official action by the governors in their campaign for a referendum.

The governors say they want to place 12 issues before the people for consideration.

Collection of signatures is a requirement for a referendum petition, which must meet a constitutional threshold.

The campaign will kick off in Governor Isaac Ruto's Bomet County, according to a press release from Council of Governors (CoG) communication manager Barrack Muluka.

Mr Ruto is the chairman of the council and one of the chief architects of the referendum campaign, dubbed *Pesa Mashinani*.

After the launch at Bomet Green Stadium, the governors will proceed to neighbouring Kericho County.

Tomorrow morning, they move to Ivugwi PAG Church Grounds, Likuyani in Kakamega County before heading to Malava Township in the same county. In the afternoon, they will be at Mwiboma Grounds in Mumias Town.

The list of 12 questions that will be developed into a Bill

include amending the law to increase funds to the counties and strengthening the Senate by making it an Upper House with similar powers like the National Assembly.

However, the governors want the Senate to have the final say on matters affecting counties.

They want separate gazetting of laws between the national and county governments and a role in security matters.

Impeachment of elected leaders, the council says, should be based on a uniform law and a clearing house for legislation should be created.

The governors also want the Constitution amended to give members of county assemblies similar privileges with MPs.

The governors insist that their push for constitutional amendment should not be mistaken with Cord's Okoa Kenya.

Yesterday, Deputy President William Ruto met county assembly members and MPs from Uasin Gishu County in Eldoret and won assurances that they

12

Number of questions governors want to present to the people for consideration

500,000

Number of signatures Cord says it has collected in the coast region so far



JARED NYATAYA | NATION

Deputy President William Ruto is introduced to Uasin Gishu nominated Member of County Assembly Rose Kisama by Governor Jackson Mandago in Eldoret yesterday. Mr Ruto told leaders the time for politicking was over and it was time to work for the voters.

would not support the campaign for a referendum. Mr Ruto was in the town to flag off a fleet of new police vehicles.

"We just came from a General Election and the time for politicking is over. Let us work together to transform our economy for the betterment of our people," he said.

Elgeyo Marakwet Governor Alex Tolgos and MPs William Kisang' (Marakwet West), Oscar Sudi (Kapseret), Silas Tiren (Moiben), Edwin Barchilei (Soy) and Uasin Gishu Woman Representative Eusila Ngeny attended the meeting.

Rift Valley threw its weight behind the Jubilee Coalition in General Election last year but a split has emerged over the referendum drive.

Governor Ruto, his Nandi, Kericho and Baringo counterparts Cleophas Lagat, Paul Chepkwony and Benjamin Cheboi respectively

support the *Pesa Mashinani* push. Those in opposition are Uasin Gishu's Mandago and Nakuru's Kinuthia Mbugua.

Governor Mandago dismissed Council of Governors stance and cautioned his Bomet counterpart that he risked being ousted.

"Our stand is that we oppose the referendum and we are ready to replace Mr Ruto with a sober leader," he declared.

In Nakuru, Governor Mbugua said he would return to Cord headquarters booklets used by the *Okoa Kenya* group to collect signatures that were confiscated in parts of Nakuru.

Mr Mbugua said he would send them back with a message that the people of Nakuru did not need a referendum.

Meru Governor Peter Munya accused Jubilee of trying to silence governors through "propaganda, insults and intimidation".

"The Deputy President has

been doing the rounds in the country, especially in Jubilee strongholds, saying governors are not with the government.

Leaders should stop putting a wedge between governors and the people," he told the Press.

In Embu, the Council of Elders — Nyangi Ndiiriri — hosted Homa Bay Senator Otieno Kajwang' on Thursday in Runyenjes Town.

Its chairman, Mr Andrew Ireri, said the council was pushing for a referendum because Kenyans continued to suffer.

Mr Ireri said Jubilee should tell Kenyans why they were opposed to a referendum when it was anchored in the Constitution.

In Mombasa, Cord claimed it had collected about 500,000 signatures.

Reported by Kennedy Kimanthi, Tom Matoke, Barnabas Bii, Dennis Lubanga, Galgalo Bocha, Bernard Ogembo and KNA

In your **SUNDAY NATION** Tomorrow



New Tenders page in the Sunday Nation

Are you in the Supplies business? Then you are in good company in the *Sunday Nation*. Tomorrow, we continue with our regular page that collates tenders advertised by the national and county governments across the country. If you missed the announcements in the newspapers or online, be sure to catch the highlights weekly in the *Sunday Nation*.

The Westgate attack: A world exclusive on the attackers



After a year of investigations, detectives from different countries and security agencies have finally identified the four young men who attacked the Westgate Mall and traced how they executed their plan. On the actual date of the First Anniversary of the terror attack that left 67 people dead, the *Sunday Nation* brings you world exclusive pictures and details of the four men, their movement and masterminds of the attack that shocked the world one year ago.

Obama Snr's son lays bare his father's dark side

In his new autobiography, *An Obama's Journey: My Odyssey of Self-Discovery* across Three Cultures, President Barack Obama's half-brother Mark Obama Ndesandjo, lays it all bare. The brutality of his honesty is as startling as the skill of his telling is engaging. Ndesandjo has the ability to make you not just conceptualise but to actually smell the whisky in the breath of his perpetually drunk father, Barack Obama Senior. We give you a sneak preview into Obama Snr's troubled marriage with Ruth, Ndesandjo's mother.



Plus special reports, analyses, features and all your favourite columnists

Three in Ruto's convoy die in crash

BY NATION
CORRESPONDENT

Two senior Uasin Gishu County government officials were among three people who died in a grisly road accident yesterday at Outspan on the Eldoret-Nakuru highway.

The were in a convoy of vehicles accompanying Deputy President William Ruto in a tour of the North Rift.

Mr Ruto sent his condolences to their families and friends.

Collided head-on

The accident occurred after the Eldoret Water Services vehicle, which the county officials were using, collided head on with a truck at 12.30pm.

Governors Jackson Mandago (Uasin Gishu) and Alex Tolgos (Elgeyo Marakwet) and six MPs were part of the entourage that was headed to the burial of Nandi elder Joel Kipsium in Timboroa.

Earlier, the Deputy President attended a function

in Eldoret Town where he handed over police vehicles and ambulances to the county government.

Police said two of the victims died on the spot while the third succumbed to injuries at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in Eldoret.

The truck driver was slightly injured. Uasin Gishu County Secretary Peter Leley confirmed they had lost two senior staff and sent a message of condolences to the bereaved families.

"We cannot reveal their identities now until we notify their families. This is very sad. We had a colourful launch of county police vehicles," Mr Leley said on phone.

At the accident scene, the victims' personal effects among them neck ties and phone covers were strewn all over.

Eldoret West deputy police chief Lazarus Wambua blamed carelessness for the accident. He noted that there had been an upsurge of crashes on the highway.

Only in the **SUNDAY NATION**. Don't miss your copy

SURVEY | 36 per cent of interviewees said someone in their household had recently gone to sleep on an empty stomach

Shame as a third of Kenyans go hungry

Even salaried Kenyans are feeling the pinch as the cost of living rises and incomes stagnate

BY NGARE KARIUKI
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One in every three Kenyan households has someone who sometimes “goes to sleep hungry” because they cannot afford a meal, a new study has revealed.

Most Kenyans also feel that things are generally going wrong, a finding which should get Jubilee strategists thinking about how to get their positive message out more and to ensure it is believed.

The report, which was released yesterday by Ipsos Limited, showed that even salaried Kenyans were feeling the pinch as the cost of living rises and incomes stagnate.

The report shows that 43 per cent of Kenyans earn less than Sh10,000 while 31 per cent earn less than Sh25,000.

Only four per cent earn more than Sh40,000.

With 93 per cent of Kenyan adults earning Sh40,000 and below, the report confirmed a recent analysis by Standard Bank that estimated the number of low-income households in Kenya at 92 per cent.

High cost of living, insecurity and unemployment were cited in that order as the most serious problems facing the country.

A sample of 2,059 adults was interviewed in the 47 counties between August 24 and September 1, with an error margin of two at 95 per cent degree of confidence.

About 36 per cent of those interviewed responded in the affirmative when asked if they or any member of their household had recently gone to sleep on an empty stomach.

A similar trend was observed when the population was divided between urban and rural areas, with 34 per cent of urban residents and 37 per cent in rural areas saying they had at one time or another gone to bed hungry.

More women (38 per cent) than men (34) also reported going to bed hungry due to financial difficulties.

The sample was framed in accordance with the demographic profile obtained from the 2009 Population Census and was therefore considered a reliable representation of the 19.4 million adults recorded in the census.

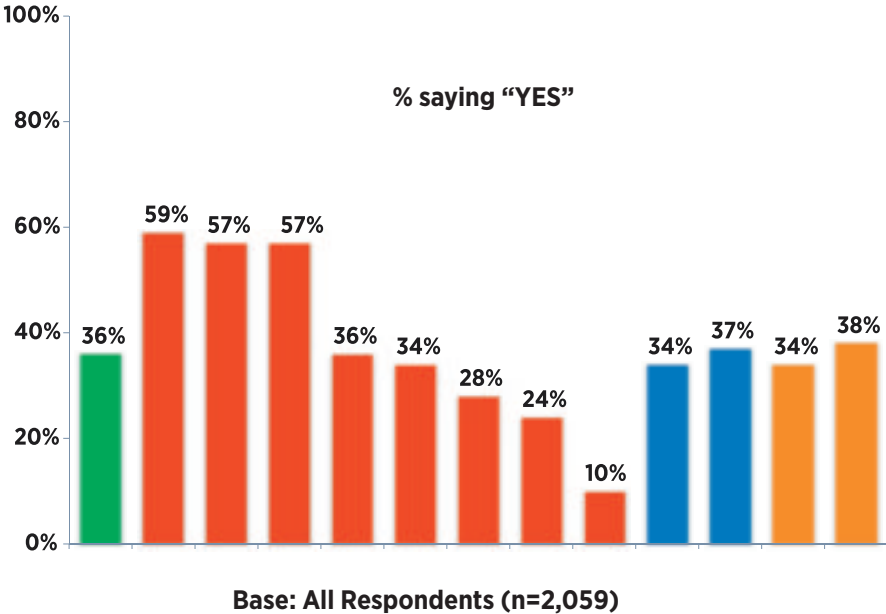
Economic hardship

Majority of residents in Nyanza (59 per cent), Coast (57) and western (57) regions reported that they had skipped an evening meal due to economic hardship.

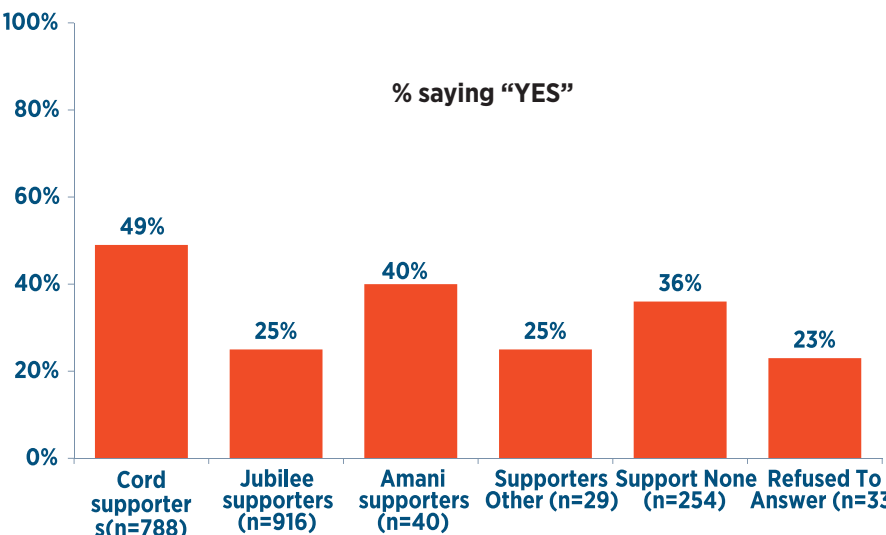
Coast and Nyanza regions also recorded the highest number of people (86 per cent each) who felt that things had increasingly worsened since the Jubilee administration came to power.

Central region recorded the most positive feedback, with 58 per cent of respondents saying things were going in the right direction and only one in 10 reported occasionally going to bed hungry.

“Do you or does anyone in this household ever go to sleep at night hungry?” (By Region, Setting and Gender)



“Do you or does anyone in this household ever go to sleep at night hungry?” (By Coalition Supported)



“Among those who are poor, that is, households earning less than Sh10,000, almost half of them say someone in their house sometimes sleeps hungry. This means people have more urgent financial obligations on their incomes,” Ipsos lead researcher Tom Wolf explained.

Though corruption and poor leadership have in the past been cited as major drawbacks in the state of the nation, the two factors failed to make the top-three slots, with only about 10 per cent of Kenyans citing them as serious problems.

The majority of Kenyans (59 per cent) also feel their personal economic conditions have worsened in the past three months while only 19 per cent see an improvement.

4

Percentage of Kenyans who earn more than Sh40,000

The report, which is Ipsos Kenya’s third quarter Social, Political, Economic and Cultural (SPEC) Barometer survey, categorised the results according to whether respondents were affiliated to Jubilee or Cord coalitions.

A large majority of Cord supporters (80 per cent) said they believed things are generally going wrong. “The fact that different ethnic groups in Kenya live in different parts of the country helps us to understand why issue-based politics cannot be separated from ethnic divisions in politics,” said Mr Wolf.

Jubilee supporters seemed divided, with 43 per cent saying things were going in the right direction while 40 per cent said things were going south, and 17 per cent sitting on the fence.

Despite 43 per cent of Jubilee supporters feeling things were generally going in the right direction at the national level, 28 per cent said their personal and family economic condition had worsened in the last three months.

“

With 93 per cent of Kenyan adults earning Sh40,000 and below, the report confirmed a recent analysis by Standard Bank that estimated the number of low-income households in Kenya at 92 per cent”

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CHRONOLOGY OF ATTACKS

July 5, 2013: US warns its citizens on travel to Kenya.

September 21, 2013: Al-Shabaab terrorists attack Westgate Mall in Nairobi in a four-day siege that leaves 67 people dead and 175 injured.

December 14, 2013: Four people are killed and over 30 injured when an explosive device goes off in an Eastleigh-route matatu in Nairobi.

January 2, 2014: 10 people are injured after a grenade is hurled at Tandoori bar in Diani, Kwale County.

January 10, 2014: A smoke grenade is discovered in a washroom at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport

January 23, 2014: Four foreign missions warn of new terrorist attacks; caution their citizens against visiting a number of estates, airports, govern-

ment buildings and crowded public places.

February 2, 2014: Police disrupt a jihadist convention at a mosque in Mombasa

March 18, 2014: Detectives and FBI agents seize 270 rounds of ammunition, one AK-47 rifle, grenades, detonators and a mobile phone in a vehicle parked at a police station in Mombasa.

March 23, 2014: Six worshippers killed when gunmen storm a Mombasa church.

March 30, 2014: A suspected terrorist dies and a madrassa is destroyed when an explosive device he was assembling prematurely goes off in Eastleigh, Nairobi.

March 31, 2014: Six people are killed and dozens seriously injured in blasts

in Nairobi's Eastleigh estate.

April 23, 2014: Two policemen among four people killed in Nairobi when a car they had intercepted exploded as it was being driven to Pangani Police Station.

May 3, 2014: Four people killed and scores injured in twin explosions in Mombasa. The explosion in Mwembe Tayari ripped apart a Chania Travellers

Kimaiyo and Karangi failed in their duty and must step down

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to rescue people trapped inside and contain terrorists. For four hours, the public was fed on intermittent messages of hope and heroism by our forces.

Then comes this video and survivors' accounts and it emerges that Kenyans were lied to. By the time the security forces entered the mall, the last civilian had been killed.

Soldiers were clearly unsuited for this battle. They were trained, but not for hostage rescue situations. The footage shows them going in and shooting aimlessly at anything that moved.

It is public knowledge that the 3,500 square foot mall was covered by more than 100 cameras, and that live footage was available to both the police and military at a remote site in Hurlingham.

In the light of this, the decision to deploy the military made no sense. And the delay in the deployment of the GSU Recce Company tactical team which was assembled at Westgate was an act of utter incompetence.

The fact is that by the time the GSU entered Westgate, the massacre was over. Al-Shabaab had accomplished

its evil mission.

These acts call for accountability. And the honourable thing is for Kimaiyo and Karangi to step down to close this sordid chapter in our traumatised life as a country.

Leaders across the country are unanimous that the security agencies failed to respond appropriately to this attack and subsequent ones that have claimed close to 200 lives in the last one year alone.

The leaders we talked to yesterday concurred that one year down the line, the gaps that led to the attack and the eventual botched rescue mission should have seen some heads roll even as the country picked its pieces and forged strategies to counter terror in future.

Mr Richard Thuta, an Israeli-trained homeland security and terror expert, said the Kenyan forces were portrayed as irredeemably incompetent in pre-empting, preventing and mitigating a terror attack.

"It also exposed weaknesses in our intelligence system and coordination between the various security arms. Instead of complementing each other, they competed against each other," said Mr Thuta.

He called for the amendment

of the NIS law to empower the service to act on its intelligence. "Intelligence should not be a mere conveyor of reports. The world over, intelligence agencies are empowered to act on their findings."

As the postmortem examination of the attack took centre stage yesterday, resignation calls were heard from both the Cord and Jubilee coalitions, civil society and the clergy.

ODM secretary general Anyang' Nyong'o led the calls, saying "someone must pay" for their role or lack of it in the attack and the eventual botched rescue mission.

"In any civilised society the two gentlemen who bungled a security operation of such magnitude should have resigned by now. They did not offer any explanation or apology to Kenyans for what happened," Prof Nyong'o said.

He said there had never been a comprehensive report on the causes and any measures to prevent future attacks.

"The military obstructed a rescue mission by police and Kenyans lost lives after the bungled intervention," said the Kisumu senator.

Senior counsel Paul Muite said: "We are terribly exposed and vulnerable. The President



Soldiers outside the Westgate Mall in Nairobi on September 26, 2013. It has since emerged that by the time the security forces entered the mall during the attack by Al-Shabaab terrorists, the last civilian had been killed.

FILE | NATION

has no choice really but to continue building the confidence of the country on this matter after the exit of Maj-Gen Michael Gichangi, former NIS boss."

Mr Muite singled out Mr Kimaiyo for the lapse of security in the last two years, saying the army had done well except on the Westgate matter "in which they were duped into intruding."

"I was very surprised when Kimaiyo was appointed IG. The impression I made of him when he appeared before me as the

chair of the committee on the administration of justice during the Artur Brothers saga is that here was a completely incompetent and clueless man. His performance to date has since confirmed my fears."

Also calling for the overhaul of the security forces were MPs Peter Weru (Mathira), Stephen Ngare (Ndia), Ben Momanyi (Borabu), Chris Wamalwa (Kiminini) and Timothy Bosire (Kitutu Masaba).

Mr Ngare said Mr Kimaiyo should resign like the former

Director of National Intelligence Service, Maj-Gen Gichangi and not wait to be forced out of office. "We need another officer with new ideas on how to handle insecurity."

Mr Weru said he was perturbed that one year down the line, Kenyans cannot still put a hand on what happened at Westgate or in places like Lamu. "In as much as the office holders need fair hearing, we need to change things, starting by sending all those responsible home."

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bus that plied the Thika-Mombasa-Malindi route. The second explosion went off in Nyali near a popular resort, but no one was injured

May 4, 2014: Terrorists explode home-made bombs on two passenger service buses on Thika Road killing three people, injuring dozens others.

May 16 2014: Twin explosions at Gikomba Market in Nairobi kill 12 people and wound dozens.

ple and wound dozens.

June 15& 16, 2014: Suspected Al-Shabaab attackers storm Mpeketoni trading centre in Lamu County, kill 48 people, burn 20 vehicles as well as buildings housing hotels, banks and government offices.

June 17, 2014: Gunmen invade Kaisare village in Lamu, kill nine people after a house-to-house operation.

June 23, 2014: Five more people are shot dead in Pandanguo in Witu, Lamu West, when a gang attacks villagers at night.

July 5, 2014: 23 people killed, one injured when gunmen attack Hindi, Kibiboni village and Gamba Police station on the Garsen-Lamu road.

July 7, 2014: Unknown gunmen raid a private conservancy in Amu ranch

in Lamu County and burn officers' houses and a patrol vehicle.

July 10, 2014: An armed gang raids Pandanguo village in Lamu County, torches houses and sets ablaze a school.

July 12, 2014: An armed gang raids Pandanguo yet again, loots homes and harvests maize from farms.

July 18, 2014: Heavily armed gunmen open fire on a bus near Mambo Sasa Forest in Witu division killing seven people among them four policemen.

August 4, 2014: About eight armed men hurl grenades at the Mandera County Government offices

Compiled by Maria Wambua, Nation Library.



Mr Momanyi said Mr Kimaiyo and Gen Karangi "should have resigned like yesterday for failing to curb insecurity in the country".

Mr Wamalwa said Mr Kimaiyo and Gen Karangi owed Kenyans an explanation of what transpired during the Westgate attack.

"It is a shame that there is no report that has come up with findings from the incident which happened one year ago," said the Kiminini MP.

Law Society of Kenya chairman Eric Mutua said if the two would not resign, they could be removed from office through a petition, the courts or public agitation.

However, he said a petition could be blocked at Parliament, which is controlled by the government, while the courts would pose the challenge of limited evidence.

"The only workable route is that of public protest, but it is also likely to be undermined by the division along ethnic and party lines," said Mr Mutua.

International Centre for Policy and Conflict executive director Ndung'u Wainaina faulted the government for its failure to constitute a commission of inquiry to get to the bottom of the matter.

"As a country, we are stuck. No investigation, no answers to questions like the level of negligence on the part of any security agency, or to what extent our internal security systems failed."

Kenya National Muslims Advisory Council (Kemnac) chairman Sheikh Juma Ngao and Muslims for Human Rights executive director Khelef Khalifa said the degree of incompetence within the security forces had reached

worrisome levels.

But several pro-government leaders defended the two and said there were ongoing efforts to help the country out of the security hole it had found itself in.

Elgeyo Marakwet Senator Kipchumba Murkomen said: "My focus is not on the people in charge of our security, even though that is important. I would like to see a change in the hardware."

"We should equip our officers better. We should also have better training, increased surveillance along our borders, and the immigration department ought to work closely with the security officers."

The chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Defence and Foreign Affairs, Mr Ndung'u Gethenji, said the changes at the National Intelligence Service and the Immigration Department were steps in the right direction.

Mr Gethenji said a joint report by his committee and that of Administration and National Security chaired by Tiaty MP Asman Kamama had identified Immigration as a major missing link in the war against terror.

"We proposed that future heads of immigration must be retired military officers. This would beef up military intelligence along our borders," said Mr Gethenji.

He said his committee had taken a keen interest in the new biometric registration of persons to curb infiltration by foreigners who come to recruit local youth.

"This is a priority project. We must guard ourselves from foreign criminals," he said.



“

In any civilised society, the two gentlemen who bungled a security operation of such magnitude should have resigned by now”

ODM secretary general Anyang' Nyong'o

Kiambu Senator Kimani Wamatangi dismissed Prof Nyong'o's assertions that the government was doing nothing to address insecurity.

"There was a disconnect between intelligence services and various security agencies. We now know more than we knew and that is why changes are taking place in the various arms of security."

Mr Wamatangi said that changes at the NIS had rekindled hope that things would be done differently.

"One key thing is that we must protect Kenya from becoming a fertile ground for breeding sympathisers of terror. We have already seen local elements who have been used by terrorists," he said.

Senate Majority Whip Beatrice Elachi echoed the sentiments and asserted that NIS and Immigration changes were a step in the right direction but said the National Police Service required tougher changes at the managerial level.

"We saw remarkable changes when former Police Commissioner Hussein Ali took over. Officers were motivated because promotions were done on merit."

"I do not think that is happening now. Our police need such motivation."

Kajiado Central MP Joseph Nkaiserry said having working security systems in place is just part of the solution.

"Citizens hold the key to their own security. Security agencies cannot be everywhere."

"The culture and spirit of being vigilant is key in fighting off any security threat," said Mr Nkaiserry, a retired military officer.



“

My focus is not on the people in charge of our security, even though that is important. I would like to see a change in hardware.”

Elgeyo Marakwet Senator Kipchumba Murkomen

Most Kenyans view Al-Shabaab as an 'extremely high' security threat

BY NGARE KARIUKI

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Two thirds of Kenyans consider Al-Shabaab an "extremely high" security threat, while only a third believe the group was responsible for the Mpeketoni attacks.

A new survey also shows that both supporters of Jubilee and Cord believe the terrorist group was "most responsible" for the attacks in Lamu County, where more than 100 people were killed.

Also, twice as many Jubilee supporters hold "local political networks" responsible for the Mpeketoni attacks as do those for Cord.

The survey, released by Ipsos Kenya yesterday, cited insecurity as one of the most serious problems currently fac-

ing Kenya, second to the high cost of living.

"As in the past, only a minority of victims of crime (42 per cent) reported to the police, with a solid majority (60 per cent) completely dissatisfied with the response they receive."

"Indeed, this high level of dissatisfaction may explain why more crime victims do not report such incidents," says the report.

Surprisingly, 28 per cent of Kenyans are aware of the pres-

ence of Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) in Somalia as part of an international force to rid the country of Al-Shabaab militants.

A third of those who are aware of KDF's presence in Somalia believe this will lead to a reduction in crime and terrorist attacks in Kenya.

One in every three people interviewed during the survey said they thought KDF's presence in Somalia would only lead to an increase in terrorist attacks back home.

When asked whether they had heard of any Muslim clerics who had been killed in the last year or two, 36 per cent of the respondents said they were not aware of such killings.

Among those aware of any Muslim clerics killed, 79 per cent knew about the killing of Sheikh Shariif Abubakar (Makaburi).

42

Percentage of crime victims who reported cases to the police, with 60 per cent completely dissatisfied with officers' response



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COURTESY CALL | Akon in Nairobi



PHOTO | COURTESY

International hip-hop artiste Akon when he called on East African Affairs, Commerce and Tourism Cabinet Secretary Phyllis Kandie at her office in Nairobi yesterday. Akon promised to use his status as a global celebrity to promote Kenya as a safe tourism and investment destination. He also met President Kenyatta on Thursday.

PEV CASES | Judges also put off President's trial indefinitely

ICC scores a first as it sets October date with Uhuru

Court set to discuss issues raised in the prosecution notice, lawyers' responses

BY WALTER MENYA
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The International Criminal Court has ordered President Uhuru Kenyatta to appear before it on October 8, making him the first sitting Head of State to be required to do so.

But the court postponed indefinitely the start of his trial for alleged crimes against humanity, which was to start on October 7.

President Kenyatta has denied the charges that arose from the 2007/08 post-election violence.

Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda has told the court that she lacks evidence to prosecute the President, but she wants the Kenyan Government to give her details of his bank accounts, foreign exchange transactions, vehicles and property to see if she can build a case from that.

Former civil service boss Francis Muthaura and Police Commissioner Hussein Ali, who had been jointly charged with the President, were set free for lack of evidence but the court decided to continue with the case against Mr Kenyatta.

Another case against Deputy President William Ruto and former broadcaster Joshua arap Sang is proceeding at the court despite eight witnesses claiming they were enticed to implicate them.

The African Union has protested that African leaders are unfairly targeted by the court.

The ICC judges yesterday asked that Mr Kenyatta be physically present in the court on the second day of the sta-

tus conference which begins on October 7 "to discuss the issues raised in the (prosecution) notice and the responses thereto."

"Given the critical juncture of the proceedings and the matters to be considered, the accused is required to be present at the status conference on 8 October 2014," the order by Judges Kuniko Ozaki (presiding judge), Robert Fremr and Geoffrey Henderson said.

Attorney-General Githu Muigai has been invited "to discuss the status of cooperation between the prosecution and the Kenyan Government" on October 7 — the first day of the status conference.

The Hague-based court had issued summons instead of arrest warrants for the Kenyan post-election violence suspects.

However, the suspects were required to adhere to several conditions — mainly cooperation with the court and non-interference with witnesses and victims of the post-election violence.

The court had also separated President Kenyatta

and his deputy William Ruto's cases from running concurrently so as to allow them to continue with their State functions.

Failure to comply with the conditions could see the court issuing arrest warrants against President Kenyatta. In such a case, his foreign travels could be jeopardised as the court will ask countries signatory to the Rome Statute to fulfil their obligations under it and arrest him.

Alternatively, if he is present or has a valid reason not to be present in the court, there is also the possibility that the Trial Chamber could terminate the charges against President Kenyatta given that Ms Bensouda has said she lacks sufficient evidence to prosecute him.

Ms Bensouda had on September 5 filed a notice requesting the Trial Chamber adjourn the trial of President Kenyatta, yet again.

However, she opposed the termination of charges until the Government of Kenya executes in full the April 2014 Revised Request for his financial and property records.

66

... the accused is required to be present at the status conference on 8 October 2014"

ICC order

Students protest over funds delay

BY NATION REPORTERS

Some university students yesterday took to the streets over the late disbursement of funds by the loans board.

The students from the Technical University of Mombasa and the Technical University of Kenya in Nairobi engaged the police in running battles for the better part of the morning, saying cash for this semester had not been paid into their accounts.

The Technical University of Kenya students stormed offices of the Higher Education Loans Board (Helb) at Anniversary Towers, Nairobi, in the early hours of the morning, demanding an explanation over the payment delay.

The rowdy students blocked University Way. They pelted motorists with stones, causing traffic jams on major roads leading into the city centre.

Officers from the Central Police Station were sent to the scene of the riots and contained the protesters at 1.30pm.

"We are going to continue protesting until we receive our money," said Mr Joseph Karuri, the Vice-Chairman of the Students Association of the Technical University of Kenya.

Although University of Nairobi students did not join the riots, which broke out just outside their institution, their leader, Mr Babu Owino, said he supported the demonstrations. He called for the resignation of Helb CEO Charles Ringera, whom he blamed for the latest crisis in universities.

The students' counterparts in Mombasa marched out of the Technical University gates in protest over poor management of the institution as well as the delay in the release of the Helb money.

Lob tear gas canisters

They barricaded the Buxton Road Junction, disrupting traffic. Others attempted to get into the town centre. This prompted the police to lob tear gas canisters at the students and descend on them with batons. More than 50 students were arrested. The officers removed the boulders from the road.

"This demonstration was supposed to be peaceful until the police waylaid us. They hurled tear gas at us, yet our mission was simply to make our grievances known," said Mr Benmark Ng'ang'a, the President of the Technical University of Mombasa's students association.

BRIEFLY

NAIROBI

NYS to admit people living with disability



At least two disabled persons from every county will be given a chance to join the National Youth Service. Nominated ODM MP Isaac Mwaura yesterday said that a Parliamentary caucus on disability had reached the agreement with the NYS. He said the level of inclusion of people with disability in public jobs was below the Constitutional threshold. The MP spoke at the launch of With A Different Mind, a network of 12 organisations seeking to change Kenyans' attitude towards persons living with disabilities.

NAIROBI

Cashless fare plan moved to December

The introduction of a cashless bus fare system has been pushed to December 1. The National Transport Safety Authority said it had approved Kenya Commercial Bank, Co-operative Bank and Equity to offer the service. July 1 had been the deadline for implementation but this was suspended after requests by operators. The new rules intend to outlaw use of cash in matatus, with fines of up to Sh100,000 for offenders.



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IUPUI

THE SECOND (2ND) MOI UNIVERSITY KESSES COMMUNITY-INDIANA UNIVERSITY- PURDUE UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS (MUKESCO-IUPUI) PEACE RACE

OBJECTIVE

The race is to foster peace among communities living within the environs of the University.

INVITATION

Moi University on behalf of Moi University Kesses Community- Indiana University- Purdue University Indianapolis (MUKESCO-IUPUI) wish to invite participants from the above mentioned location to participate in the race.

THEME

"Together we can win the race for peace and development"

VENUE, DATE & TIME

Moi University, Main Campus on **Saturday, 27th September, 2014**. Registration starts at **7.30 a.m.** and the race begins at **8.30 a.m.**

REGISTRATION FEE:

- Individual Participant Kshs.100
- Team (Primary & Secondary Schools) Kshs.300

GENERAL INQUIRIES:

Contact:

Email: dvcre@mu.ac.ke/ipo@mu.ac.ke/officeinternational13@gmail.com

Phone: **Lydia: +254722745916** or **Cornelius: +254732412000**

Further Peace Race details visit Moi University website: www.mu.ac.ke

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27TH SEP 2014

ELDORET SISIBO

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RULING | The idea that an employee can declare herself unaccountable is unheard of, says judge

Appeal court upholds JSC sacking of Shollei

Ruling means former Chief Registrar of the Judiciary will miss out on millions in compensation

BY PAUL OGEMBA

@PaulOgamba

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Former Chief Registrar of the Judiciary Gladys Shollei (right) was lawfully sacked for insubordination, misconduct and financial impropriety, the Court of Appeal has ruled.

A three-judge bench agreed that the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) had the authority to discipline Mrs Shollei.

They said Industrial Court judge Nduma Nderi misapplied the law in revoking the sacking letter.

Judges Hannah Okwengu, G.B.M. Kariuki and Patrick Kiage set aside the Industrial Court judgment, a decision which would see Mrs Shollei miss out on millions of shillings in compensation, which the lower court had said she was entitled to.

"The judgment of the Industrial Court cannot stand since the judge

applied the wrong principles of law to equate a disciplinary process to a criminal trial. In the end, he arrived at a wrong conclusion not supported by any known law," ruled the judges.

They criticised Mrs Shollei for saying that she was only answerable to Parliament and not the JSC.

They stated that any employee must be accountable to the employer and that the commission had the power to discipline Mrs Shollei.

Unaccountable to employer

"The judge (Justice Nderi) did not direct his mind to the way the allegations were made. Given her attitude towards the JSC and her reactions to the allegations, she (Mrs Shollei) could not say she was unfairly treated. The decision to sack her was fair, justified and within the law," said Justice Okwengu.

Justice Kiage said the former registrar was given ample time to respond to the allegations and that the Industrial Court judge treated her as though she was above the JSC.

"The idea that an employee can declare herself unaccountable to her employer is unheard of. Her char-

acter was far beyond what is expected of an employee and it was wrong for the judge to admit claims that the JSC was biased against her," he said.

Justice Kariuki ruled that the lower court dwelt on issues not raised by any party during the proceedings and that the judge was openly biased against the JSC by allowing extraneous methods to arrive at his decision.

"The burden of proof was on Mrs Shollei to show and satisfy the court that her removal was irregular but the judge failed to consider this and arrived at a decision that failed to meet the ends of justice," said Justice Kariuki.

On claims by Mrs Shollei that some JSC members were biased against her and that the Chief Justice had formed a "war council" to kick her out, the judges ruled that these were a mere red herring meant to divert attention from the charges against her.



Lawyers take on Muite in Konza case

BY NATION SATURDAY
CORRESPONDENT

Heated exchanges marked yesterday's proceedings in a case facing Machakos Senator Johnstone Muthama and former Information and Communication Permanent Secretary Bitange Ndemo over the Sh179 million Konza City land deal.

The defence accused special prosecutor Paul Muite of failing to disclose that the High Court had blocked the suspects' trial.

The over 20 defence lawyers engaged Mr Muite "over his conduct and silence about the existence of the prohibitory order suspending the trial of the accused".

Mr Muthama and Dr Ndemo are among the nine suspects whose trial had temporarily been halted by Judicial Review and Constitutional Division judge George Odunga on September 3, 2014 - two days before they took the plea before anti-corruption court chief magistrate Doreen Mulekyo.

Mr Muite defended himself, saying he had informed the defence on September 5 that three directors had obtained an order halting their trial.

Justice Odunga called off the session and heard the lawyers arguments in camera.



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CHANGE OF TACT | Activist launches new programme to fight for the public good and entrench good governance

From streets to art, Mwangi fights on

Celebrated photo-journalist turns to song, dance, brush and pen to drive social change in Kenya

BY NJOKI CHEGE
@njokichege
nchege@ke.nationmedia.com

Kenya's most notorious street activist has turned his back on what many believed was his calling. Instead, Boniface Mwangi is now using art to push for social change through his organisation, PAWA 254.

"The streets were working but I realised that you could not build a movement in the streets. Plus, I got so much government intimidation and I realised Kenya is not worth dying for but worth living for. After all, I cannot make much difference when I am dead," he says.

He is using artists, musicians, graffiti artists, poets and actors to create music, art and poems to inspire social change. He calls it 'activism'.

"Artists are the truth-tellers of society. The beauty of art is that you cannot be arrested for it. We want to infuse subtle messages of social

change into pieces of art," he says.

Chief Justice Willy Mutunga, a former political activist who served time in prison for his activism, is PAWA 254's biggest fan and supporter. He even buys art from the organisation and makes surprise visits to their offices on State House Road.

Justice Mutunga says that activism is provided for in the Constitution under Freedom of Expression.

This form of activism, he says, is the new frontier in the struggle for human rights and social justice.

"As the Chief Justice, I am convinced that PAWA contributes in breathing life to the implementation of the new Constitution...the messages from the songs are transformational because people in public service today focus on their egos," he says.

Justice Mutunga adds that this is a new culture of communication as the Constitution allows for the freedom of expression as long as it does not violate the rights of others.

"I am looking at it from the perspective of a father, a man from a generation that has let Kenya down. It is a good thing for youth in any culture to rebel. The rebellion that people see in these artists is constitutional and it is very important that we listen to this new generation of activists," says the Chief Justice.

The organisation, in a bid to inspire social change will embark on training and funding more artists to produce artwork infused with messages on social and political change. Mwangi says that they also want to bring honour to other forms of art such

“

I realised Kenya is not worth dying for but worth living for. After all, I cannot make much difference when I am dead.”

Boniface Mwangi



Chief Justice Willy Mutunga



Swedish Ambassador Johan Borgstam

CHRONOLOGY

Activist gets a new calling

■ The PAWA 254 was started by Boniface who channelled his personal savings and worked on a donated laptop. The word "PAWA," derived from the English word, "power,"

■ Uses street graffiti to draw Kenyans' attention to the issues like bad governance, corruption and abuse of office by politicians.

■ He has organised more than 50 screenings of independently produced non-commercial films through the PAWA 254 Film Forum as an opportunity to make these works reach the general public and highlight the social, political, cultural and historical realities depicted in the films

as graffiti, initially dismissed as noise and vandalism. But the core of their activities is in using young people to drive the change.

His plan is to communise art, take it out to the street for all to see. He intends to open a PAWA branch in all counties.

"Nairobi in particular has not yet accepted art. When we talk of art, we think of curios and we don't see what we can do," he says.

He also plans to train more youths in photography, media, publishing, and videography as well as give grants to young artists to produce socially-responsible art.

The artists have a list of issues they want addressed. Key among them is the issue of members of Parliament reviewing their salaries and giving themselves privileges bankrolled by the public. Leaders must be accountable, Mwangi insists.

"I have never seen a job where you are freshly employed and you have not yet performed and you want a salary increase. We want to challenge the

law that says public servants should decide their own salaries. If you get elected and you find that your salary is not enough, quit. If a public servant wants a car, they should save their own money and buy themselves cars," he says.

The PAWA 254 has organised several artistic protests such as the 'Diaper Mentality' that critiqued the bad behaviour of Kenyans such as tolerating corrupt leaders. In January 2012, Mwangi organised a march in which activists carried 221 coffins to 'honour' MPs' request for a State burial. It was in response to MPs' proposal to award themselves millions of shillings in a selfish send-off deal that included State funerals. Mwangi torched the caskets to signify the end of one era and the birth of another.

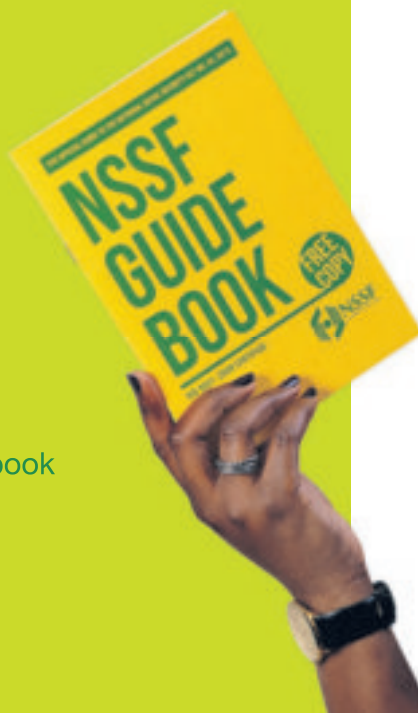
He has enjoyed the support of both local and international well-wishers, such as Dutch ambassador Joost Reintjes, Swiss ambassador Jacques Pitteloud and Swedish ambassador Johan Borgstam, who routinely attend the organisation's events.

DOES SOCIAL SECURITY COVER FUNERAL COSTS?

Yes. The Funeral Grant is paid to the member's dependents, in the unfortunate case of his/ her demise. The member's dependents can claim this grant within a period of 60 days after his/ her untimely end.

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BY CHRISTIAN BOISREDON

Day after day, the news confronts us with the world's troubles. This constant reminder can make us anxious, afraid — or even worse, anaesthetised.

But now more than ever, citizens, companies, universities and organisations are developing new ways to solve humanity's problems. We are witnessing an outpouring of social innovation and social businesses around the planet. The job of the press is to keep us informed. And yet the time has

passed when the media's greatest impact came essentially from "turning the pen in the wound", as the great French journalist, Albert Londres, once wrote. Increasingly, reporters want to contribute to the common good by writing about solutions, thereby amplifying their effects and creating hope. Nearly 40 leading newspapers from all over the world— including the *Saturday Nation* — joined our effort and are publishing supplements dedicated to innovative solutions.

Each paper contributed one or more articles, then chose what to publish from the 100 or so stories we assembled.

Last year on Impact Journalism Day, a woman in Singapore read an article about adjustable eyeglasses that could correct more than half of the world's vision problems for only \$4 (about Sh320) a pair. She showed the article to her husband, an executive at a multinational lens manufacturer. He contacted the inventors, and now they are

collaborating on a pilot project in India that could improve the lives of millions. This is the kind of impact we set out to achieve.

Today, you are one of 100 million readers discovering our stories of hope. Imagine if every reader shared these stories with those around them. Choose one and tell it to your children, your colleagues, your friends. Become a part of the movement by motivating others. Take part in our “selfie” contest by posting a photo of yourself



and this newspaper via Twitter (#ImpactJournalism and add the # of your newspaper) or the Facebook page of our founding partner, AXA (facebook.com/AXAPeopleProtectors).

Mr Boisredon is the founder of Sparknews/Impact Journalism Day

Let there be desks and bags for pupils

In some states the idea has been expanded to create jobs for young people, providing double benefit for the poor

BY RAKSHA KUMAR

By recycling cardboard boxes into a combination of a backpack and a school desk, an Indian NGO has given children a way to study in comfort—and a reason to stay in school.

Ganesh Sanas, seven, used to walk three km every morning to school in Wai district, in the state of Maharashtra, with his books stacked up in his tiny hands. But last year children in his school were each given a strange-looking cardboard box. It had enough space for their books and lunch bags.

When emptied, it doubled up as a desk. The top of the desk stood about 50cm high, allowing children to sit comfortably cross-legged on the floor and to work upright.

For a child who owned neither a backpack nor a desk, this hybrid object was a new and compelling reason to go to school.

Education in India is as varied as its diverse population. While



MORE INFO

Cost of making the 'help desks' is 20cts

The inexpensive solution to the problem of working on the floor came from a volunteer at a non-profit organisation called Aarambh, based in Navi Mumbai. The organisation collected used cardboard refrigerator boxes and spare car parts from recyclers. They created a stencil design and made cardboard cutouts, then folded these to form simple school desks they called "help desks." They designed a machine to facilitate the cutting and folding process. The machine cost only about \$100, bringing the price of each help desk to merely 20 cents.



PHOTO | SPARKNEWS

PHOTO | SPARKNEWS

Children learn using convertible boxes as desks at a school in India.

international schools in cities have facilities that surpass classrooms in some Western countries, rural schools often lack walls and clean toilets. Therefore, a huge chunk of the country's population — those who cannot afford expensive private education — go to school in their early

years and then drop out.

In 2009, India's federal government passed the Right to Education Act that promised free and compulsory education to all children. The equivalent of roughly \$500 billion was allocated to it. However, programmes under this Act do not ensure the availability of desks, bags, or even toilets. Children often sit on the floor with their backs hunched for about five hours every day, which affects their eyesight and posture.

This is one of several reasons that many drop out of school. According to the government, dropout rates in elementary schools in rural India stand at about 40 per cent.

Thanks to the desks' affordability, Aarambh was able to distribute them to 2,000 students in rural parts of Western Maharashtra last year.

"When other schoolchildren began asking for the desks we realised that we had achieved a small victory," said Shobha Murthy, the founder trustee of Aarambh.

Because the help desk experiment was immensely successful, the government of neighbouring Madhya Pradesh came forward asking to use it not only in schools, but also as an employment-generating programme for young people who could build the desks.

"It can't get better than if children get the bags and youths have a way to earn money," Murthy said.

The drinkable
book that
purifies water

A chemist and a graphic designer have collaborated to create a “Drinkable Book” that prevents waterborne diseases.

Each page is made of paper coated with silver nanoparticles that remove bacteria from dirty water—for only pennies a page.

The innovation is helping to keep children in Ghana in school by reducing illnesses.

As with any book, this one begins with pages, and these can be traced back to the laboratory of Dr Theresa Dankovich. Several years ago at McGill University, she created an antibacterial water filter using paper coated with silver the nanoparticles.

Brian Gartside is a designer at advertising agency DDB New York. He watched Dankovich's video and emailed to ask if she'd be interested in partnering with him. The idea of the drinkable book was born.

The pages are divided into two pre-perforated square filters. The top one has a message in English, and the bottom one in the local language, such as Swahili for Kenya. Each book contains 24 pages, enough to last for four years.

— By Melanie Kaplan



ENVIRONMENT | The posts made from waste are now used to build houses, hotels

Recycling factory that makes plastic trash greener than trees

What started as a hobby for a young Kenyan has become a thriving venture that is also friendly to the environment

BY DAVID HERBLING
hdavid@ke.nationmedia.com

Many people thought Ms Lorna Rutto was out of her mind when in 2009 she quit her well-paying job at a bank to pursue her teenage hobby - moulding plastic into ornaments and selling them to friends.

Using her personal savings and a Sh500,000 (\$5,813) jackpot she had bagged that year in a business proposal writing competition dubbed Enablis Business Award, Ms Rutto establish a small factory to turn plastic into land-scaping products.

In March 2010, she co-founded EcoPost Ltd, a firm which uses plastic waste to manufacture poles for fencing, landscaping, road signage and construction of small structures such as kennels and poultry sheds.

It was a plunge of faith for the Nakuru-born go-getter and after multiple trials and errors,



DIANA NGILA | NATION

An Ecopost employee at work at the company's factory in Baba Dogo in August. The factory also makes flower pots, road signage, floor decking and truck flooring among other items.

mostly errors; the budding entrepreneur finally cracked the recipe for turning plastic trash into cash from the factory based at the Kariobangi Light Industry in Nairobi.

"When I was in school, I could heat plastic as we played around and soon, I realised that the molten plastic dropped in a small container took the shape of the container and when dried and removed, it made beautiful ornaments. I did this repeatedly and started selling to my friends."

Little did Ms Rutto, who holds a degree in accounting from the Africa Nazarene University, know that her recycling venture would pioneer a new maxim: plastic is greener than trees.

It was always unlikely that plastic waste, considered an environmental hazard, could hold the key to protecting Kenya's forests.

"Recycling plastic to provide an alternative to timber thus preventing the cutting down of trees is greener," says the

CHRONOLOGY

Products are saving trees

The plastic poles pioneered by Ms Rutto have grown beyond the domestic utility envisaged at inception of EcoPost to include fencing national parks and tourist resorts.

They are also used as support beams for houses, cow sheds and garages. Smaller profiles have also been used to make chicken and rabbit houses and kennels.

30 year old.

The twin advantages offered by recycling plastics is that this helps to tackle the challenge of waste as evidenced by plastic and polythene litter in many Kenyan towns and the plastic poles act as a substitute to lumber, thereby saving trees in a country where the forest cover is below the 10 per cent of land mass recommended by the United Nations.

EcoPost recycles 769.2 kilograms of plastic waste daily or 20 tonnes every month, churning out 100 poles every day which is equivalent to saving 10 mature trees.

A tablet that helps the blind to read

BY KARIN TZSCHENTKE

It was in the final year of her master's studies at the University of Technology in Sofia that Kristina Tsvetanova was asked by a colleague whether she would be able to sign him up for an online course. At first, she was a bit surprised by the request. Then she realised that the young man was blind.

"For the first time I understood how intensively we communicate and work with technologies to which certain groups of people like the blind have only limited access," the 25-year-old business engineer said. To be sure, there are technological tools such as screen reading and enlargement programmes, electronic reading and input lines for Braille that translate electronic information into audible content. But apart from the high cost, these tools are awkward to use.

The encounter with a blind colleague was what prompted Tsvetanova to embark on what has proven to be a challenging project, namely, to develop a tablet for the blind and for persons with limited vision. At the end of the year the main steps will be completed and the first prototype of the "Blitab" is to be presented.

There are already applications for the special tablet that have already been able to garner several innovation and social impact awards.

How does it work?

With a newly developed screen technology, smooth surfaces can be perceived tactilely. Small physical cylinders emerge on the screen, similar to buttons or little bubbles that represent the specific digital content in Braille. The process involves a Braille conversion software that is part of the device.



The 'Blitab'.

Young man on mission to clean up oceans

BY CHRISTOPHER F. SCHUETZE

The Dutch wonder boy, Boyan Slat, has overcome great odds — not least his tender age — and kept afloat his idea for how to clean the oceans.

Having won over the support of numerous experts, his foundation, The Ocean Cleanup, has a plan to rid the seas of tonnes of plastic garbage. When he was 16, he saw alarming quantities of plastic floating in the Aegean Sea while diving on a Greek family vacation in 2011 and he thought — like many others would — that something must be done. But because Slat is not like most people, he has actually come up with a potential solution.

"Once I'm working on something, I only stop when it is done," he said, sitting in the Delft offices of The Ocean Cleanup, the non-profit organisation he founded to rid the world's oceans of plastic. After noticing the debris in Greece, Slat embarked on a high school project with a partner, trying to measure plastic pollution in the North Sea. Though the exercise yielded little useful data—the measuring tool the teens built broke



PHOTO | OCEAN CLEANUP

Dutch youth Boyan Slat with at sea with his invention.

in the ocean's current—it resulted in a good grade and a notice in a small Delft newspaper.

An organiser for the local TEDx Talk asked Slat to present his findings, so he fleshed out his idea: rather than actively fishing for plastic with nets, he proposed a passive clean-up system using the natural movement of currents and the wind to trap garbage against a barrier. His talk was well-received, and he has since assembled a team of close to 100 experts—offshore engineers, maritime legal experts, ecologists, marine biologists—to test, optimise, and develop his system. Many are working pro bono. A full-time, mostly Dutch team

of 10 oversee and coordinate the work. Their solution is a V-shaped floating broom that reaches about three meters under the surface of the water. It captures the plastic that drifts into it while leaving wildlife unscathed, then channels the plastic into a solar-powered extracting platform.

The goal is to install the system by 2020 between California and Hawaii, close to the North Pacific Garbage Patch. Estimated to cost around \$300 million (Slat claims that would be 33 times cheaper than using vessels with nets), the contraption extends roughly 100 km. The set-up could be replicated elsewhere. By assembling a team to build what is essentially a sophisticated vacuum cleaner and dustpan, Slat has shown the power of a determined outsider who is willing to ask the right people for help. In the last year alone, he says he has sent out roughly 13,000 emails. "When a young man of 17 years comes to you and tells you his plan, it is rather shocking, because many people have tried to do this," said Dr. Santiago Garcia Espallargas, from the faculty of aerospace engineering at the elite Technical University of Delft.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TAITA TAVETA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

P.O.BOX 1066-80304,
WUNDANYI.

TEL.
0718703359/0732604811

TAITA TAVETA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

**SUSPENSION OF INTERVIEWS
ANNOUNCED BY THE TAITA TAVETA
COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

This is to notify members of the public that the interviews which were scheduled by the County Public Service Board of Taita Taveta to start on 22/09/2014 have been suspended by the Taita Taveta County Assembly following complaints / petitions from the Public on the recruitment process.

The County Assembly will address the complaints / petitions and thereafter the County Public Service Board will notify the public on the new dates that will be set for the interviews.

Michael B Ngala
Clerk to County Assembly,
P.O. BOX 1066-80304, WUNDANYI

SATURDAY NATION

Varsities must listen to course regulators

Yesterday's protests by some university students in Nairobi and Mombasa may have been motivated by the delay in disbursing loans and bursaries, but had another critical component, namely the non-registration of some engineering students by the professional organisations.

Specifically, the students complained that the Engineers Board of Kenya had declined to recognise engineering degrees from newly established institutions such as the Technical University of Mombasa, which was previously a national polytechnic.

Arguably, the students have a valid concern that must be addressed. Importantly, the matter brought out a fundamental flaw in higher education, namely, lack of involvement of professional organisations in university education. Yet that should be seen as a motherhood item not worth belabouring.

However, many professional programmes are launched and taught without reference to industry regulators. Universities may be independent as they set and examine their own academic programmes, but they do not train in a vacuum. Their graduates are prepared for the industry, which has its standards.

The obvious expectation is that the universities and other training institutions always work closely with industry players in preparing the curriculum, assessing teaching, learning resources, and quality through internship programmes.

Precisely, the problem at hand has resulted from the massive expansion of universities in the past two decades. Many universities have resorted to launching professional courses to set them apart and in that way attract more students. But this has been done without involving professional bodies. The end result is that the courses are not recognised, and become a waste of time and resources for the trainees.

Key lessons from vote

By voting to remain part of the United Kingdom, the people of Scotland have exercised their democratic right, which must be respected by all, but especially by those who had favoured independence. The vote remains the most important tool to determine leadership and other issues of vital importance. Through the vote, it is possible to determine the majority will, which the minority must accept, having had its say.

There are some lessons from the Scottish vote for our own country. Today, our nation is in the grip of a bitter rivalry over calls for a referendum by the Opposition coalition, Cord, and governors for amendments to the Constitution to seal what they believe are glaring loopholes. The contest between the No and Yes camps in the Scottish referendum was equally robust, but devoid of the kind of animosity associated with the opposite sides in the Kenyan duel.

Another vital lesson is that the Scots have voted for the benefits they see in the unity and strength in the UK. This does not mean that they do not have any grievances. However, they see the possibility of resolving those disputes and redressing their grievances from inside. At a time when nations are banding together for greater muscle, the Scots have decided that it would be foolhardy to go it alone. They have rejected ethnic parochialism, preferring to remain in a union that promises some autonomy and greater prosperity.

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Registered at the GPO as a newspaper



POLITICS | Daniel Branch

Why Scottish referendum result matters beyond the UK borders



Kenyans can learn a lot from the way the debates were conducted and the peaceful manner everyone accepted the outcome

Despite the defeat of the Scottish independence movement in Thursday's referendum, the United Kingdom is a different country this weekend than it was last weekend.

Immediately after the result was announced on Friday morning, Mr David Cameron promised further devolution to not just Scotland, but also Wales, Northern Ireland, and England. My home country will undergo its biggest constitutional change since the southern counties of Ireland won their independence nearly a century ago.

The prospect of a once-mighty country breaking apart has attracted considerable international attention. But despite this global interest, the debate in the UK itself has largely been parochial. The anti-independence campaign made much out of the uncertainty surrounding the future extent of an independent Scotland's continued ties to the economy of the rest of the UK.

Readers of this newspaper would, therefore, be forgiven for wondering why they should be interested in these events beyond a passing curiosity in the affairs of the former colonial power.

Let me suggest just a couple reasons why the Scottish referendum and its outcome matter far beyond the borders of the UK.

The mere fact that the referendum was held and the outcome has been greeted with respect are reminders of the great power of democratic institutions.

Whatever regrets nationalists may have had about the referendum, they cannot dispute that the democratic will of the people has been voiced.

Democracy is the only form of government that is sufficiently flexible to cope with the ebb and flow of demands for centralisation and devolution that characterise many countries, including Kenya.

The back-and-forth between devolution and centralisation has been a major feature of Kenyan politics since independence. Majimboism has fallen in and out of fashion and faith in central government to lead development has been lost and found again. Kenya is blessed now with a Constitution that is sufficiently flexible and responsive to adapt to such changes in public opinion. It is right that the Constitution is a work in progress; having the ability to change and up-

date the Constitution is vital if the country is not to be permanently beholden to the values of its architects and the context in which it was promulgated in 2010.

Demands for constitutional debate and reform are therefore healthy, regardless of whether or not one agrees with the proposed changes.

No less significantly, the Scottish referendum also reminds us of the prevailing importance of nationalism in a globalised world. Mainly as a legacy of imperialism, Britain has one of the most globalised economies in the world. For now, at least, it remains part of the European Union, the most successful experiment with regional integration. But despite globalisation and regionalisation, nationalism has proven to be a powerful political message for both sides in this referendum campaign.

The pro-independence campaign was the most obvious exponent of nationalism, in this case tapping into a deep-rooted Scottish identity that predates the formation of the UK in 1707. But the anti-independence campaign saved itself by belatedly exploiting a less obvious form of latent nationalism.

After the demise of the British Empire, the left tried to use social welfare and universal health care to replace imperialism as the basis for British national identity. This progressive idea of British nationalism was always weaker than its jingoistic counterpart, but it

was only silenced entirely by the embrace of neo-liberal economics in the 1980s and changing public attitudes towards immigration and European integration.

With the polls suggesting the 'No' vote was shrinking a couple of weeks before the referendum, this progressive vision of the UK had an unlikely resurgence in Scotland. It found a champion in former Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Mr Brown made much of Scotland's contributions to the recent great achievements of the UK: the creation of a National Health Service and the construction of the welfare state. The introduction of a degree of progressive nationalist sentiment into the 'No' campaign did enough to defeat the independence cause.

As Kenyans know all too well, moments of progressive democracy are rare in British history. This is one such moment, but it may be short-lived. For jingoistic nationalists, the UK's membership of the EU has always been troubling. To such individuals, a place in the EU represents a surrender of the UK's presumed position as a great power. Prime Minister Cameron has promised a referendum on continued EU membership after the next General Election in 2015. The global implications of that vote will make those of the Scottish referendum seem tiny in comparison.

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THINK AGAIN | Maina Kiai

Disobeying court orders and other acts of impunity a worrying trend



State officials must lead the way in upholding the rule of law

In 1964-5, at the start of an insurgency for secession by Kenyan Somalis who wanted to be part of Somalia as decided in a referendum held just before independence, President Jomo Kenyatta unconstitutionally invoked a state of emergency on the Northern Frontier District (NFD). His declaration was plainly illegal — and contrary to the advice, we are told, of Attorney General Charles Njonjo — but it was popular within the rest of Kenya.

That illegal act marked the beginning of the race to the bottom as the Kenyatta regime begun to emulate colonial rule, but this time with the Kiambu Mafia acting as the settler-masters, amending the Constitution and centralising power in the presidency to maintain a veneer of legality for the emerging dictatorship. But they also employed illegal tactics in this reincarnation of colonial rule: Assassinations, corruption, poaching, smuggling and land grabbing were all part of the repertoire as the promise of freedom and equitable development was squandered willy-nilly.

In late August, Uhuru Kenyatta presided over the sinking of the Al Noor ship that had been seized in July with a huge shipment of heroin worth about Sh1.3 billion, despite court orders to preserve the ship while destroying the drugs. We are told that all but three kilos of the drugs were destroyed in the sinking of the ship by the Kenya Navy.

This has been a popular action, despite the blatant disregard of court orders. But it was reminiscent of the Imperial Presidency, which was one of the main reasons for the demands for a new Constitution,



The ship seized with cocaine was blown up in the Indian Ocean.

something which some normally critical observers have overlooked in praising the action.

First, how can we be sure that it was not glucose that was destroyed by the Kenya Navy? Since the Westgate fiasco by our armed forces, it should be hard for any of us to give our military the benefit of the doubt when it comes to matters material.

Don't we remember the sheepish return of Sh300 million after it was discovered that there were missing millions of cash from ATMs and shops? We were told that the money had been "liberated" to save it from the four terrorists who had been cornered by the GSU Recce Unit before the Army took over and somehow extended the siege. And don't we remember the hundreds of bottles of booze that were also "liberated?"

Some skepticism is necessary, for the pattern and logic of the drug trade is a dangerous one, and generally if a drug shipment is lost

or captured someone somehow has to pay.

In December 2004, a huge shipment of drugs was seized at the coast, and stored at the GSU Training School, under the control of senior officer Erastus Chemorei. In February 2005, Officer Chemorei was gunned down at his rural home by the police, who then claimed that he was a major gangster. The keys to the armory where the drugs were stored disappeared.

Months later the consignment, we are told, was destroyed by incineration. A friend who observed the incineration later wondered why no one got high from the burning cocaine; and in 2011 KTN did an expose questioning the entire process.

Second, the President willfully disobeying court orders sends the message down that impunity has a place in our post-constitutional society.

And this message is already being taken to heart. On September 11, Justice Isaac Lenaola ordered the Immigration Department to give a year's work permit to journalist Lucy Hannan pending the hearing of her case challenging its denial — after seven years of continuous work permits — last year. It was an unequivocal order. But when the passport was presented to the Immigration department to comply with the court order, processes were invoked that only serve to delay or thwart the court's orders!

We better be ready, for just like the 1960s we could be in for a rough ride down the slippery slope of impunity and disregard for the rule of law.

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POLITICALLY CORRECT |

Kwamchetsi Makokha's sideways look at the referendum debate

Judge Duale on his speech rather than style of delivery



English, as we all know, came to Kenya by ship. Sailors similarly adulterated Kiswahili, but Kenyans are stuck with both when they need to speak to each other.

The duplicity and doublespeak that enables the British to maintain the pretence of politeness when discussing a referendum on the independence of Scotland

and the breakup of the United Kingdom should not be expected in Kenya, so many miles from the home of English.

In discussing the proposed referendum in Kenya, focus has been unfairly trained on the spat between the Majority Leader in the National Assembly, Mr Aden Duale, and Bomet Governor Isaac Ruto, completely missing the context in which they spoke. As a result, many Kenyans have judged the Majority Leader rather harshly without the benefit his full remarks on the clamour for a referendum. Yet, because of Mr Duale's forthright style, the content of his speech has been lost in the din of accusation.

Mr Duale's remarks about someone thinking that public money belonged to his mother were provoked by the Bomet Governor and others in the referendum train telling brazen lies about taking money to the grassroots. Three weeks earlier, Mr Duale had spoken truthfully in Narok, exposing the many lies peddled by the referendum proponents. Since news holes have been shrinking and not everyone can access the Internet, I am ceding the rest of this column to a rough English translation of Mr Duale's stump speech in Narok, as obtained from a YouTube video (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyH8JKwTXyk>) freely circulating on social media:

"These proponents of the referendum are bankrupt. They have no money, and they have no ideas. They are stuck at home, and want to raid the resources of Kenyans.

"Beware anyone asking for your signature. If you give your signature, you will lose your cattle. If you give your signature, you will lose your land title deed; if you give your signature, your shop will be seized.

"The Constitution requires that you frame questions on the referendum before you start collecting signatures. Show people that here are the questions: if a person agrees, they can sign. You can sign, and you are a Christian or a Muslim, and you will see homosexuality being introduced here. You are joking ... Kenyans should beware, especially pastoralists: If you are a Maasai, a Somali or a Turkana, your cattle and camels will go.

"When you see these people, ask them for the questions. You will sign, and maybe your money in the bank will go. They have been sent by the banks. "These people are bankrupt. They have no ideas. They have no money.

If you see Kalonzo (Musyoka) and Raila (Odinga), they are pursuing their retirement benefits. Their Bill is pending in Parliament. Fuelling their cars is a problem. Their house bills are a headache. Now you want to give them your signature?

"Are you out of your mind? Would you give someone who is begging the Uhuru-Ruto government to put fuel in their vehicle your signature? This is not the old referendum where (Deputy President William) Ruto was on the No side and I was on the Yes side. This is about raiding public resources."

You can never be sure about these fake YouTube videos, but what Mr Duale appears to be saying is so spot-on. Since the Constitution that Mr Duale swore to uphold and protect guarantees the freedom of thought, he should not be asked to apologise to anyone for thinking volubly in the hearing of so many people, including Tanzanian guests who had come to grace the Mara Day festival in Narok last week.

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DIFFERENT STROKES | Gabriel Dolan

When will Wanjiku take centre stage?

We have had two opinion polls on the proposed referendum and the results are hardly encouraging. The polls confirm that ethnicity and party loyalty are the determining factors in whether you support the Okoa Kenya Movement or not. Up to 90 percent of voters in Nyanza support the referendum while a similar figure in Central oppose it. Support for amending or opposing is consistently on a par with the popularity of the coalitions in any given region.

Maybe matters will crystallise with time, but right now politics reigns, sobriety is missing and Wanjiku is once again the victim. There is little doubt that the political class reluctantly supported the 2010 referendum, but this time around they are not going to allow civil society to outwit them. The positions of both coalitions reflect their immediate interests and not ours. The

“

Devolution is here to stay and has gained tremendous popularity in counties that... were neglected by the Nairobi government”

issues needing reform also seem to be increasing by the day, so now we seem headed for a major constitutional review rather than a simple referendum on one or two issues.

Where does that leave Wanjiku? Well one poll indicated her major concern is the cost of living. How that can be related to a constitutional amendment seems remote, but it does remind us wananchi are feeling the pinch and that you cannot eat a constitution. Yet devolution is here to stay

and has gained tremendous popularity in counties that for half a century were neglected by the Nairobi government. Pokot, Turkana, Wajir, and Mandera in fact the whole of the former Northern Frontier Districts are experiencing services that they had been deliberately and systematically deprived of by successive administrations.

On the other hand, counties like Nakuru, Mombasa, Nairobi and Kiambu are wondering what all the excitement is about as they complain that devolution has brought no significant change in their areas. Of course, they forget that they had always gotten a larger share of the national cake and that devolution is an affirmative action programme that has energised marginalised and deprived communities. No wonder then that some counties are demanding an increase from 15 percent to 45 percent of the national revenue.

But the proponents of Pesa Mashinani initiative must admit that an increase in revenue will require more services to be devolved. Currently, Education, Infrastructure and National Security consume over 50 percent of the budget and there are 32 other functions of national government that have to be budgeted for. Besides, most counties have inadequate administrative capacity to handle even their current responsibilities.

Yet, devolved funds can be increased if the country and counties learn to live within their means and if wastage and corruption is severely reduced.

There is a way forward but it requires that the public rescue once more the reform process from the political class and insist on a dialogue that is inclusive and, above all, mindful of Wanjiku.

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POINT BLANK | Godwin Murunga

Why does Jubilee Coalition foist its worst as the face of the party?



Public utterances by some of the ruling coalition's lieutenants leave a lot to be desired

There is now no doubt that our progress as a nation continues to be undermined by a combination of challenges, some external, many self-imposed. Externally generated challenges relate to a dynamic and complex international system that has never really been friendly to Africa. But there is no doubt that a significant number of these externally generated challenges are reinforced by our own local sluggish behaviour. Of course, this should not be surprising if one paid attention to the electoral processes leading to Jubilee Coalition's assumption of power.

What is surprising is the unwillingness or failure to deal with the sources of inertia within Jubilee. The fact that the President has refused to prioritise reining in his Jubilee lieutenants who have masterminded or nurtured this sluggishness even when it threatens to clog up our governance system is indeed worrying. Perhaps he does not understand that controlling their unbecoming public behaviour would open the system up to proper functioning. But, alas, even that hope is also fast

fading and one remains unsure where we are heading with this.

Nothing illustrates the current problems better than the widespread and repeated spewing of hatred. Our system is now dominated by empty chest-thumping, the peddling of lies and the cheap threats politicians have resorted to, first between themselves irrespective of party lines but secondly across party lines. While each of the parties has its share of problems, it is certainly the case that Jubilee politicians take the prize.

Two persons have defined the public notoriety of Jubilee and must bear great responsibility for derailing party agenda. These are the Speaker and the Majority Leader in the National Assembly. Every time the Speaker speaks, I am reminded of how much I miss Kenneth Marende, the former Speaker who lost in the race for that coveted seat for reasons other than his ability. In fact, the more one thinks of it, it is clear that the loss of Mr Marende is more a comment on the calibre of members of parliament we voted for than on his performance.

Mr Marende embodied poise. His demeanour



Governor Ruto (c) is restrained by other officials.

reflected his learning and was befitting of his office. It took him only a few hours to grow into that office. When asked by ODM soon after his swearing in 2008 to rule in their favour, he decided to be guided by the standing orders. When compared, Marende's performance makes one wonder if the current Speaker knows that the exalted nature of his office expects him to serve the nation, not the partisan interests of those who secured his election.

But the Speaker certainly appears like a saint in the presence of the majority leader. While some people were criticising me for supporting the civic right of the Migori hecklers last week, all I

needed in my defence were the outbursts of the majority leader in Narok. There is no heckler in the country to outmatch him; indeed, heckling seems natural to him because he combines an acerbic tongue with a voice projection that comes through almost naturally as bellicose.

It is of course unfair to expect politicians to heckle endlessly while depriving ordinary Kenyans the opportunity to heckle, too. It is for this reason that I ask why Jubilee prefers to use its worst as the face of the party.

In my view, the faster Jubilee Coalition realises the cost of having this kind of politicians as their face to the public, the more difficult it will be to convince anyone that they have a serious agenda for Kenya. That is, of course if you assume the coalition worries about public opinion. The impression one gets is that the Jubilee Coalition does not really care. It ignores valid public concerns about a whole range of things and with impunity.

Godwin Murunga is Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi. gmurunga@gmail.com

MARK MY WORD |

Philip Ochieng

How bits of tautology can gain acceptance



Ordinarily, HIV and Aids are one and the same thing. So why do I follow them with the plural verb "are"? Because grammar does not recognise the objective sameness of the two things. In grammar, these are two nouns, so that, as soon as I name them separately, I have named a plurality of things and must use a

plural verb.

That was why the headline "HIV and Aids does not discriminate..." (in last week's number of the *Sunday Standard*) was puzzling. Yet, objectively speaking, HIV and Aids are not the same thing. While HIV is a virus, Aids is not. Aids is just a condition that the virus may occasion in the bodies of certain animals.

The *Sunday Standard's* headline should thus have been: "HIV and Aids do not discriminate..." Nevertheless — as I keep warning — in English, there are often more exceptions to the rule than there are instances of it.

On numerous memorable occasions are two nouns obliged to take a singular verb.

A famous example is: "Time and tide waits for no man". One of William Shakespeare's most quotable statements reads: "Time and hour runs through the roughest day". In either case, two nouns are forced to take a singular verb. And, in both cases, those with sensitive noses for language can detect at least a whiff of tautology.

Aren't "time and tide" the same thing, namely, the passage or flow of a certain metaphorical "liquid"? For all practical purposes, what would you say is the difference between "time and hour" in the Bard's locution? In the latter case, I suspect that Shakespeare needed to tautologise merely so as to meet the needs of a poetic beat.

Nevertheless, repetitiveness of this kind is frequently the secret of the communicative power of such a statement — its impact on the audience. The English language has a plethora of other examples.

By means of one, in your passport, official Kenya pleads with other states to allow you to enter their domains "without let or hindrance."

But this seems tautological only because, from one etymological root, the verb "to let" means to allow. But from another etymological root — from the Old English *lettan* — the verb to let retains the archaic sense of to hinder, to block the way, to thwart, to frustrate, even to deny permission.

This is why the term "let or hindrance" in your passport is tautological. For, in there, to let means exactly the same thing as to hinder, to block. In such games as tennis and squash, the word let still refers to any minor infringement or obstruction of the ball, and a let, whenever one perpetrates it, may require a replay.

I would have made every sense had I said either "are one thing" or "are the same thing". So why did I prefer the tautology "are one and the same thing"? Because — like "let or hindrance" — time has honoured the tautology as an idiom. That is why the combination is so much more powerful than the two separately.

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FAIR PLAY | Peter Mwaura

'Road Hog' show violates private rights

Tuesday last week was Jamleck Kamau's day. The MP for Kigumo and chairman of the parliamentary committee for Energy, Communications and Information won a one-year-old legal battle against a media house. The Complaints Commission, which adjudicates complaints against the media, found Royal Media Services liable for violating his rights, namely his reputation and standing in society.

Last year in July Citizen TV, owned by Royal Media Services, aired a video clip of its popular *Road Hog* show that names and shames owners of vehicles caught on camera breaking traffic rules. The video, which is also posted on Youtube where it has been viewed by more than 14,000 people, features Mr Kamau's vehicle as its leading item. It insinuates he is driving.

The Commission ruled Citizen maligned and publicly ridiculed him. The ruling — if not overturned on appeal — creates a precedent. Other owners of vehicles caught on camera can use it to redeem their reputations. The video showing Mr Kamau's car overlapping is accompanied by the following narrative:

"Ring Road Kileleshwa. When everyone else is waiting patiently in line, the road hogs decide their time is more precious

“

The Commission said the initiative, though commendable, is flawed. Not all vehicles are driven by their registered owners"

than the rest of us. Let's start with this Range Rover. First, you drive on the wrong side of the roundabout. Then, you force yourself into the lane, inconveniencing oncoming traffic. And then, you decide to overlap everybody. KBM 555V"

Chorus (by unseen schoolchildren): "Aah, shame on you!"

The narrator continues: "This car is registered in the name of Jamleck Kamau. But he is not alone. KAT 299K" (The video shows a second vehicle). Chorus: "Aah, shame on you!" The narrator says nothing more about that vehicle.

The Commission said Citizen seemed biased against Mr Kamau. The show producer, Alex Murungi, knew Mr Kamau's social status. It's therefore likely he thought Mr Kamau would make the "juicy story".

The Commission said the show vilified,

embarrassed and publicly ridiculed Mr Kamau. In defence, Citizen said the programme aims at encouraging observance of traffic rules by naming and shaming. The programme does not try to find out who is driving because it's easier to name and shame the registered owner.

The Commission said the initiative, though commendable, is flawed. Not all vehicles are driven by their registered owners. "As such there is a very real chance of persons not in actual control of motor vehicles being maligned through unfair publication especially since penalty for traffic offenses are criminal in nature and liability attaches to the perpetrator individually and is not transferable to agents."

The Commission ruled the episode violated the Code of Conduct for the Practice of Journalism in Kenya. Article 2 of the Code states media reports on matters of public interest shall be "fair, accurate and unbiased". The Article also requires journalists to seek comments from anyone mentioned in an unfavourable context.

The Commission ordered Citizen to publish an apology and correction clarifying Mr Kamau was not driving. *Road Hog* will probably never be the same again.

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QUOTED

"If we get concrete commitment that we will get more funds, we have no reason to go for a referendum."

Meru Governor Peter Munya on the push by the Council of Governors for more devolved funds from the national government



NOTICE TO BUYERS OF TASSIA II & III PLOTS

Following dismissal of the Judicial Review Application No.218 of 2014 by the Judicial Review Division of the High Court of Kenya at Nairobi on 4th September 2014, the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) wishes to advise buyers of the above plots as follows:-

1. That the payment of **Kes.920,000.00** (Nine Hundred Twenty Thousand Only) per plot is now due and payable **immediately. The amount is to cover infrastructure development, survey and physical planning fees, engineering and design costs and processing of individual title deeds.**
2. That the comprehensive infrastructure development shall include the following:-
 - (i) *Tarmacked roads within the estate with a major bus route to serve the estate linking it to the existing neighbourhoods of Nyayo, Baraka, Embakasi Village and Doonholm Estates.*
 - (ii) *Major sewerage and storm water drainage works and water supply to individual plots from the Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company connection.*
 - (iii) *Pedestrian walkways and street lighting*
3. That the County Government of Nairobi has made development of necessary infrastructure and services **mandatory** for the final approval of the Physical Development Plan, which approval, would then pave the way for the **processing and issuance of individual titles.**

The Board of Trustees, NSSF greatly appreciate the many buyers who have so far made and continue to make payments towards the infrastructure development and encourage the rest to do so without further delay. Payments should be made through the **NSSF TPS Account No.110 326 7647 at Kenya Commercial Bank, Milimani Branch** (Reference: Tassia II & III Infrastructure).

Please take note that individual letters on the infrastructure payment have already been dispatched to each purchaser and that, NSSF shall not hesitate to invoke its rights under the **Eviction Order** issued under **Civil Suit No.529 of 2002** to carry out evictions/demolitions for buyers who will not have cleared the infrastructure development cost.

RICHARD K. LANGAT
CEO/MANAGING TRUSTEE

15 September, 2014

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



KENYA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT **SUBMISSION OF MEMORANDA**

In the Matters of consideration by the National Assembly -The County Governments (Amendment) Bill, 2014 and The Central Bank (Amendment) Bill, 2014.

Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution provides that Parliament shall facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other business of Parliament and its Committees. Standing Order 127(3) states that the Departmental Committee to which a Bill is committed shall facilitate public participation and shall take into account views and recommendations of the public when the Committee makes its report to the House.

The **County Governments (Amendment) Bill, 2014** by the Hon. Adan Keynan, MP and **The Central Bank (Amendment) Bill, 2014** by the Hon. Kabando wa Kabando, MP have undergone First Reading pursuant to Standing Order 127 and are now committed to the Departmental Committee on Finance, Planning & Trade for consideration and thereafter make a report to the House.

Pursuant to Article 118(1) (b) and Standing Order 127(3), the Committee invites interested members of the Public to submit any representations they may have on the two Bills. The representations may be forwarded to the **Clerk of the National Assembly, P.O. Box 41842-00100, Nairobi**; hand-delivered to the **Office of the Clerk, Main Parliament Buildings, Nairobi**; or emailed to **clerk@parliament.go.ke**; to be received **on or before Friday, 26th September, 2014 at 5:00pm.**

MICHAEL R. SIALAI
FOR: CLERK OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



Ministry of East African Affairs, Commerce and Tourism **Tourism Recovery Task Force**

The
one
day
that was
meant to
destroy the
heart and soul
of a nation, has
turned into the day
we remember that we
are all united under one
flag; ready to progress
Kenya beyond the odds
and obstacles. As we
commemorate the loss of
innocent lives, we salute all
who selflessly demonstrated
that we can stand together;
shoulder to shoulder as
one indivisible
people and
nation.

IN
REMEMBRANCE
OF
21ST SEPTEMBER,
2013.

To the editor

The editor welcomes brief letters on topical issues.
Write on e-mail to: mailbox@ke.nationmedia.com
You can also mail to: The Editor, Daily Nation,
POB 49010, Nairobi 00100.

Government must be seen to back devolution

The government's desperate attempts to stifle the quest for a referendum by the Opposition and the Council of Governors raises questions about its commitment to devolution. Promising exorbitant goodies to MCAs if they drop their support for the referendum push is immoral. The MCAs also want to be delinked from the Senate oversight, probably to ensure they can impeach their governors with impunity. Recent surveys indicate that devolution enjoys 70 per cent support, but 44 per cent is dissatisfied with the governors' performance. This could be because the county bosses cannot secure enough funds to provide effective public service.

ALEX KIPCHIRCHIR, via e-mail

Residents want answers to killings of children

The macabre killing of a child, whose body was found, yet again, dumped in a trench at an estate in Kakamega Town brought to three the number of children murdered and dumped at this particular spot in the recent past. The perpetrators seem to want their victims to die in excruciating pain. Such cases have been reported in other parts of the country but this is a new phenomenon in Kakamega. Residents are demanding for the immediate arrest of the killers. The police have said that they have "crucial leads" and that they will "make arrests soon." Residents of Kakamega, however, should not take the law into their hands. Kenyans should learn to let the law take its course.

SAMSON MALIKA, Kakamega

States unable to tackle cross-border car thefts

I am an insurer privy to disturbing reports that vehicles are stolen in Kenya and driven to Tanzania and sold or used there. This is corroborated by tracking devices. Last month, a Toyota Prado was stolen from the NSSF parking bay near Barclays Plaza. The signals from the tracking device show the exact spot where it is hidden in Tanzania, but the police there are uncooperative. They, for example, are yet to help the woman who owns that Prado. The authorities need to wake up to this sorry situation.

CARLOS KAMAU, via e-mail

TALKING POINT

Tea farmers need an urgent assurance on future of crop

This is a response to a letter by Harrison Ikunda (*Sunday Nation*, September 14, 2014). It also comes in the wake of the release of bonus payment to various factories by the managing agent, Kenya Tea Development Authority. Some allegations in his letter were facts. Some factories were unable to pay the mini-bonus, and now farmers are up in arms against KTDA.

Ikunda's idea of privatisation as the answer to tea farmers' woes is contradicted towards the end of his letter when he admits that some entities need partial privatisation, while others need total privatisation. Others don't need it at all. He ended by proposing that the tea sub-sector has to undergo another re-invention as it did in the 1990s. I agree with him on that because the KTDA seems to be doing that, though they have refused to explain this to farmers for fear of negative reaction.

Paradoxes in the tea sectors commenced when KTDA last September established a wholly owned subsidiary called Chai Trading Company, now based at Miritini in Mombasa.

Its services are clearing and forwarding, warehousing



FILE | DAILY NATION

Mary Muthoni picks tea leaves at her farm at Gathuthi village in Nyeri County. Farmers are up in arms against KTDA for the low bonus paid out this year.

logistics (transport), blending and packaging, tea trading, strategic business partnerships, direct sales overseas and market intelligent services.

Farmers need to be told that if aspirations of this year-old subsidiary succeed and KTDA manages to control the tea business from farms to shops overseas, then farmers are headed to Canaan. To give an example, 1kg of processed tea costs Sh60 at Kianjokoma in Embu, Sh660 in Egypt, Sh1,600 in Nigeria, and Sh850 in Britain. This fact begs various questions.

Were the stringent requirements for buyers and brokers that were put in place at the Mombasa auction, and which locked out more than half of them,

meant to cushion the services of this subsidiary?

Could the KTDA have spent farmers' money to finance this subsidiary by buying huge trucks and ships without consulting them? If they did that, then farmers were lucky to get what they got as bonus.

KTDA officials, from factory directors to top officials in Nairobi, are not telling us what they are doing, leaving room for speculation.

Personally, I'm ready to receive less bonuses for the next two or three years if that is what it will take for the aspirations of this subsidiary to come true, especially if this will eventually push the bonus payment to the level of Sh80 per kilo.

MATHEW NJERU ELIJAH, Embu

Police are not keen to protect lost children in big towns

It's sad that we keep on getting reports of stolen or lost children. I think that, among other things, not knowing your child's whereabouts is the most agonising thing. Recently in Nairobi, a woman found a lost child at Odeon stage and took her to a nearby police station. However, instead of the police taking the child, they told the woman to go and raise the child. She said that the boy is around two years. The woman has children of her own and didn't need an extra mouth to feed. She was, therefore, looking for a person that does not have a child to take the baby.

I couldn't stop thinking of how troubled

the child's family was. Their child was out there, being exchanged like money.

But the question is, do the police take details of the children brought to them before they offer custody to the person who brought the child? Do they take pictures of the children, and record their details like height and birth marks? Do they take details of the person going away with the child including ID and phone number? And if they do, do they distribute this information to other police stations so that when the biological parents come looking for the children they will be easy to trace?

EMILY KARIUKI, Nairobi

THE CUTTING EDGE

BY THE WATCHMAN

OPEN WESTGATE. The best way to commemorate one year since the Westgate Mall tragedy is to open it, and not to just show films that open old wounds, remarks X.N. Iraki, adding: "It took the terrorists a day to have the mall closed. That it is now taking more than a year to open it means the terrorists won. The main guest at the commemoration should have popped a champagne bottle at the newly opened mall to demonstrate the resilience of the Kenyan people. Open Westgate now..." His contact is xniraki@gmail.com.

HOSPITAL AGONY. The Nairobi Hospital is no longer the comfortable and exclusive institution it once was, charges Wamuyu Gatheru. Recently, she had a patient and "everything from admission, nursing care and even discharge was difficult, just like in the public hospitals". Even after waiting for an hour, she claims, no bed was available. "The patient was entitled to a private room but never got one. The bathrooms were dirty and the plumbing in poor shape. It took almost five hours to discharge the patient." Her contact is wgatheru@gmail.com.

SUPERMARKET AGONY. Often, Frans van den Houdt says, shoppers wonder why supermarket tellers are "so ineffective and inefficient and why supervisors cannot step in". Last Saturday morning at Chandarana Supermarket in Yaya Centre, Nairobi, he says "an extremely incompetent guy at one of the tills kept a long queue of shoppers waiting for 15 minutes". An elderly man at the exit, who seemed to be a supervisor, did nothing. "Isn't it high time that cashiers got proper training and they be removed if found incapable?" His contact is fhoudt@gmail.com.

WAITING FOR A PIN. The nearly six-month wait by Michael Nyangi for a Personal Identification Number (PIN) for an investment company is finally over. Kenya Revenue Authority's senior marketing and communication official Maureen Njongo says the company's application has been processed and the PIN certificate duly sent to Nyangi. And confirming the end of his agony, Maureen adds, Nyangi has already acknowledged receipt of the PIN.

TRAFFIC RULES. Bwanaheri Kalela won't buy the suggestion by N. Albert that a driver at a roundabout must indicate in which direction he is going. Says he: "While driving at a roundabout, the lane into which you enter will clearly show where you are going. And the basic driving school rule is that you must never change lanes at a roundabout. Therefore, the issue of having to switch on one's indicators to show in which direction one is going simply does not arise." His contact is hkalela@gmail.com.

Have a competent day, won't you!

ON THIS DATE IN 1995

COMPILED BY DELVIN OMWODO



ANNUAL MEETING. University of Nairobi vice-chancellor Francis Gichaga (left) and the Minister for Education, Mr Joseph Kamotho (right), at the opening ceremony of the eighth annual conference of the Kenya Physical Society.

YESTERDAY'S QUESTION

Your comment on S. Sudan move to expel foreign workers

ANDREW KIRIAGO: This is a good move. However, it sends a red signal to foreign investors in South Sudan to consider hiring locals on jobs that do not require expertise.

ALEX MISIANI OBINO:

Considering that South Sudan is a young country with little infrastructure and labour laws that are yet to be put in place, I think her timing to expel foreigners is not right. She needs expatriates to help in building and training the locals.

JOE MUSYOKI: South Sudan needs to carefully craft a strategy, including appropriate labour legislation and education, to enable a gradual transition from foreign to local work force.

DEBATE QUESTION

Comment on the one year since the terror attack on Westgate Mall

Send your comments to mailbox@ke.nationmedia.com

ENERGY | Using two weight of about 10kg, the lamp can generate enough power to last about 20 minutes after every lift

Light up your home... with the power of gravity

Innovation will be in the market by 2015 and will cost \$10 in poor Asian and African countries

BY SARA NORRMAN

Two industrial designers in London have discovered a clean, inexpensive way for people in developing countries to light their homes.

Using the force of gravity, the GravityLight is a safe alternative to kerosene for 1.3 billion people around the world who lack access to power.

It was the failure to fulfill one brief that set the creative wheels in motion for another. The London-based product design consultants, Martin Riddiford and Jim Reeves, had been asked by the charity SolarAid to develop a light with a photovoltaic solar panel and battery at a cost of under \$6

(Sh480). The goal was to give people in the developing world an alternative to kerosene, which is expensive, toxic, dirty and dangerous.

After racking their brains, the industrial designers had to concede that they couldn't fulfill the task. Using solar energy after dark required storing it in battery form, making any product expensive and inefficient. What was needed was energy that could be produced effortlessly and used instantly. And this is when the two men had their lightbulb moment.

"Realising that energy generated by gravity could replace expensive alternatives as an energy store was definitely one of those moments," Reeves said. "The idea that something as simple as a bag of stones or dirt could be what produced the tension needed to generate kinetic energy was another."

The GravityLight goes beyond other user-powered products like the



“

It does make the slightest of noise when in use, but it's almost silent”

Jim Reeves, product design consultant

PHOTO | SPARKNEWS

Children use the lamp powered by gravity in India.

wind-up radio or pedal lights because of how quickly it generates energy—a three-second lift of a bag gives up to 28 minutes of low light.

"Martin first proved the concept with a rig of bicycle wheels, chains, and a hand crank torch," Reeves said.

Weighing just under a kilogramme,

the GravityLight contains a few basic components: the main casing, looking like a mix between an egg timer and a fishing reel; the weight strap that feeds through the generator; and two bags with hooks to attach them.

When filled with sand or rocks, the bigger bag weighs in at around 10 kg (if overloaded, a red warning light comes on). Once filled, the smaller bag attaches to the other end and works as a counterweight, sending the strap through a series of small gears that convert the kinetic energy into fuel for an LED light.

"It does make the slightest noise when in use," said Reeves, "but it's almost silent." Even while producing 0.1W of power, GravityLight can also run and recharge other devices such as torches and radios.

As recently as 2012, the future wasn't looking too bright for the GravityLight's inventors, who desperately needed funds to produce and distribute over 1,000 lights for field trials in Africa and India. They wanted to know whether the light would survive the tough environments where it would have to function. And they wondered if people would agree to get up every 20-odd minutes to lift up a bag.

The GravityLight is set to hit the market in 2015, with an initial price of around US \$10 per unit in the developing world—a cost that Riddiford and Reeves are hoping to bring down with the profits from Western markets. Among potential commercial partners, they are in talks with camping stores and supermarkets.

JamiiBora
— BANK —

Tunaamini Ni Wakati Wako



JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

PUBLIC NOTICE

INVESTORS FORUM AND SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND JAMII BORA BANK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STUDENTS' ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology and Jamii Bora Bank have agreed on a financing scheme for local investors to put up students' hostels around the University. This is a social-economic empowerment project that will facilitate the development of quality accommodation facilities for up to 20,000 students in the next five years.

The two Institutions will sign a **Memorandum of Understanding** at a public ceremony presided over by the Governor of Siaya County, Hon. Cornel Rasanga on **Monday, 22nd September 2014**, at the University's Main Campus in Bondo town starting at **10.00 a.m.**

The University and the Bank invite the entire leadership of the Region, the business community and all investors to the **MoU Signing Ceremony cum Investors Forum**.

Enquiries:

Public Relations Office, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology, P.O. Box 210 – 40601, Bondo; Tel: 057-2501804/2058104; Email: pr@jooust.ac.ke



PREFERRED HOLIDAY DESTINATIONS

The EastAfrican; the regional weekly paper will on **4th October 2014** run a special feature on Preferred Holiday destinations in East Africa ahead of the coming festivities. The feature which will also be available online, will focus on;

- Benefits of Single Tourist Visa
- Leading hotels, lodges, tented camps and resorts
- Corporate retreats & conferencing packages
- Air travel & tour packages

To advertise and showcase your holiday packages and offers in this feature, kindly contact **Juliet on 0712540874 or email jmutali@ke.nationmedia.com**
Dorothy on 0724158370 or email dwakoli@ke.nationmedia.com
Kauthar on +255 767223311 or email; kdsouza@tz.nationmedia.com

The EastAfrican

HEALTH | Platform designed by US web developers gives women with breast cancer chance to learn from others

It looks like Facebook but helps fight cancer

Because it is a closed user group, members feel free to share their experiences about how they cope with the complications caused by the disease

BY MARIE BERNIER

On first view, the site looks a lot like a Facebook page. Members have profiles with a profile picture and description. They can post status updates, comment on other users' statuses and "like" posts. However, the similarities stop there.

Every image and message on the site is a reminder that users are battling a common enemy: breast cancer.

Started in 2012, My Breast Cancer Team (MyBCTeam) is a social network of more than 5,000 women who either have breast cancer or are in remission.

MyBCTeam wasn't created by a woman facing cancer but by two web professionals in San Francisco. Mary Ray and Eric Peacock are the co-founders of MyHealthTeams, a company that builds social networks for people with chronic medical conditions. MyAutismTeam was the first of the company's sites. It was followed by MyBCTeam and MyMSTeam, a social network for those living with multiple sclerosis.

In a phone interview, Ray explained that MyBCTeam's main strength is

being a place where women can talk to other women like them. That's something that people still can't find in traditional self-help groups.

"A 30-year-old woman may be worried about how chemotherapy will affect her fertility. Her concerns are different than those of a 65-year-old woman," she said. With just a few clicks, users can find other members like them based on type of cancer, age, treatments received, side effects experienced, etc.

The website is also practical. "If you're undergoing your seventh chemotherapy treatment, you might not have the energy to go see people face to face," said Ray.

The site is strictly reserved for women facing breast cancer, which means that users can freely talk about more taboo subjects, like reduced libido or adapting to breast implants.

Another MyBCTeam innovation is an option that allows members to send each other virtual hugs. The site's creators wanted to introduce this feature because when a person gets bad news, sometimes the best thing you can do is hug them.

Claudette Reny, 68, is from Gatineau, which makes her one of



the few women on MyBCTeam from Quebec. In August 2013, she found out she had a tumour in her right breast. The shock was brutal. "It was a nightmare," she said.

While researching online, Reny found MyBCTeam. The site was a lifesaver. "One day, things were really bad. I was very depressed. I got so many hugs that day."

Since then, she's logged onto the social network every day, where she posts questions to other users and sends out hugs of her own.

"I talk to women from Texas and

A web grab showing the website through which women who have survived cancer share their experiences.

PHOTO | SPARKNEWS

“One day, things were really bad. I was depressed. I got so many hugs that day.”

Reny Claudette, breast cancer survivor

California. We don't know each other, but we do. I can't explain it."

At the Fondation québécoise du cancer, the website is making waves, and overall the reaction is positive. "Seeing that other women want to live is a source of hope for those who have just been diagnosed," said Nicole Morin, a Fondation nurse consultant.

Morin did warn site users to be careful. "A person is not a diagnosis," she said. "Breast cancer is very complex, and no two cases are alike." This means that although members may have the same condition, they may not react the same way to treatments.

Also, the posts should not be considered medically reliable. Members who share information have good intentions, but personal experience is not enough to recommend an operation or a medication.

"We have to manage our expectations," said Morin, "especially in a case like this, because people who are dealing with difficult situations are more vulnerable."

My Breast Cancer Team can be found at www.mybcteam.com

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In line with the Group's initiatives in the realm of protection, AXA chose to support the 2014 Impact Journalism Day, that spreads positive solutions across the globe.

Better protection starts with a deeper understanding of the risks to which we are exposed. That's why AXA supports university research throughout the world, via the AXA Research Fund, a unique initiative centred around scientific patronage. The AXA Research Fund has supported over 400 re-

search teams in 30 countries since 2007. This represents 200 million euros worth of research into risks that affect us all.

We also need to better understand existing solutions that can protect us. The Facebook page, AXA People Protectors, brings 1.2 million fans in 49 countries together to share projects and ideas about better protecting our loved ones and our environment.

Articles featured during Impact Journalism Day will be promoted on www.facebook.com/axapeopleprotectors

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Our partner newspapers and their teams for their commitment to solution journalism; Total (partner of the energy section); the Social Media Squad, MakeSense and Ashoka (who named Sparknews's founder a 2014 fellow).

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SATURDAY NATION

Weekend



HOW 'NYARLOKA' MAKES HER AFRICAN TALE SING

Austin Bukonya on the contribution of foreign writers who made Africa their home.

Page 34

PROFILE | A tale of an enduring love that has lasted 44 years

Personal account of a church girl who married a maverick and how she weathered the heady days of his popular novels

BY JULIET MUTEGI
jmutegi@ke.nationmedia.com

Her living room is lined with bookshelves. Piles of newspapers compete for space with living plants. A resilient violet and a vase of roses complete the picture of reassuring tidiness and order in the house in Otiende, Langata in Nairobi. Sculptures, carvings and oil paintings adorn the walls. Three African drums are on the wall dominated by books. The couple has lived in this house since 1972.

Hannelore Maillu, the wife of author David Maillu, first set foot in Kenya from her home in Siemensstradt, Germany, in 1967.

She looks back with pride on the 44 years she has shared with one of Kenya's most controversial, if not outright eccentric, writers. The man she fondly refers to as 'David' has always been her friend and comrade.

When on January 30, 1970, Hannelore walked down the aisle, she knew she was fulfilling her dream. The chic bride wore a fashionable long-sleeve, flared mini with white pumps as she walked towards her love waiting at the altar.

Maillu, in a white turtle neck and light green slacks, cut a dashing figure as the groom.

She chuckles at the memory. "He wore a cloak just like the one a pastor wore!"

Maillu, too, still remembers being disappointed at the missed opportunity to flaunt his full regalia. "The fellow (officiating pastor) wouldn't allow me to wear a hat inside the church!"

Hannelore explains that the groom had had a hat stitched by his tailor to complement his cloak on the day he quit the bachelors' club. This sacrifice of love was, perhaps, the only time Maillu ever complied or attempted to conform.

By then, Hannelore, an efficient administrator at the Christian Council of Kenya, knew she had married a maverick.

"I first came to Kenya in 1967. I was sponsored by a German organisation — Service Overseas — and I was invited by Christian Council of Kenya to work as an administrator. I worked three years in Nairobi then moved to Limuru Conference Centre, now Jumuia Place, next to St Paul College that trained the clergy of various protestant churches.



“

We did not have cake. Weddings by then were a simple affair whose highlight was the exchange of the vows”

Hannelore Maillu

Hannelore Maillu, the wife of writer David Maillu, at their home in Otiende, Langata in Nairobi. Below: Hannelore and Maillu on the day of their wedding on January 30, 1970, in Nairobi.

COURTESY | NATION

My Maillu, 'After 4.30' and our very precious little dove

While I was not a missionary, I needed my pastor's introduction to get the position."

She did not meet Maillu in church. One of her colleagues introduced them, leading to the fruition of Maillu's dream.

"I met him outside the church. He was friends with some people who worked with the church. Then he worked at the VoK and was already a published author.

"David had a dream in the '50s — when whites did not mix with Africans — that he would marry a white person. He made an effort to talk to me. We had lunchtime get-togethers and coffee dates."

Their relationship did not face much opposition as Maillu took Hannelore to meet his mother and persuaded her to accept his intended wife.

"His mother was the most important person in David's life and he managed to convince her. My family also accepted that I had decided to make my life here and my happiness lay with David in Kenya," she says.

With this, the couple, with the support of their friends and in the presence of their family, wed in the little Lutheran Chapel near St Andrew's, Nairobi, setting the stage for the most explosive era in Kenya's literature.

"The wedding was simple. Wives of my colleagues at Limuru chipped in by bringing



drinks and scones to the reception at the YMCA. We did not have cake. Weddings by then were a simple affair whose highlight was the exchange of the vows," she says.

After their wedding, Mr and Mrs Maillu moved into a little flat in Limuru, and it is here that the prolific author completed and

published his most famous works: *My Dear Bottle*, *After 4.30*, and *Unfit for Human Consumption*, among others. It also marked a time the couple experienced some strife in their relationship.

"In Kamba and other cultures, adults could talk about sex without children understanding it. But here was a man who was direct about sex. I failed to see why he couldn't be subtle about it."

The couple then made a pact that they have preserved to this day, a pact Hannelore says still puts Maillu at an advantage.

"We decided that he would write whatever he wanted and would only show me his work when the book was complete. But by then, it would be too late to protest!"

And write he did. The prolific writer wrote all day long as long as the electric typewriter was plugged in. However, publishers were few and hard to come by. Even rarer was the publisher willing to take a chance with an African writer.

Was she scandalised?

"I have read many books and seen many films and plays in theatre. I was, therefore, not shocked at the content of his books that had become wildly popular. My only problem was the vulgar language and the use of cuss words.

"But I was not so offended as

I took his works as cautionary tales for people, especially young women who came from the village to the city. *After 4.30* was for them to read and beware that the city was not the same as the village where everyone knew each other. In the city, they could fall prey to exploitation by unscrupulous men."

The cause of women in his books is one that she protests as she considers his female characters are treated unfairly. For even though she is privileged to be always the first person to see the completed manuscript, there is little she can do to change their plight.

She cites Catherine in his yet-to-be-launched book, *Mwanzo, the Nairobi*, as Maillu's latest victim. She couldn't give details of the plight of this character, only quipping: "Wait to read and see for yourself."

Early in their marriage, Maillu's books became a commercial success across East Africa and the couple, who by then had a baby daughter, decided to open their own publishing house to keep up with his output.

"David had a vision to make literature popular and accessible to everybody. He came up with small books that could fit in a shirt pocket or a woman's hand-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

IN THEIR OWN WORDS | Kenyan authors speak

Want to write a bestseller? Think in your first language

Penning a great book in an alien language is not easy, but there are ways you can go about it

BY H. R. OLE KULET
satnation@ke.nationmedia.com

Theoretically, it should be possible for any creative writer with a narrative ability to devise a formula which would produce an award winning novel whenever the formula is activated.

The proof that no such formula exists is evidenced by the fact that the winning of such awards all over the world has never been easy. It has eluded for long some of the finest creative writers of our times, however hard they have tried to write such works.

The same applies even on our local scene. No such formula exists, and I doubt one will ever be devised in the foreseeable future.

So when in 2009 my novel, *Blossoms of the Savannah* (2008), won the Jomo Kenyatta Prize for Literature and scooped second position in the 2010 Wahome Mutahi Literary Award, and then in 2013, another of my works, *Vanishing Herds* (2013), won yet again the Jomo Kenyatta Prize for Literature, a few curious readers asked me how I managed such a feat.

One could easily be

tempted to attribute such a feat to sheer luck. I would, however, like to disabuse such a notion. No luck is ever involved in creative work. I have, however, discovered one common denominator in all award winning novels, and which appeals to judges of such works.

The common denominator is a well structured and constructed story.

Writing a possible bestseller is not easy. Perhaps one meaningful way of answering the curious readers who would like to know what it takes to write a novel that would catch the eye of a literary judge is to pinpoint the serious challenges that confront such a writer.

To best answer this question, I have to state the challenges that always confront me when I begin to write.

First and foremost is language. If I had a choice, I would have preferred to write in a language in which I believe I can express my ideas most effectively. My mother tongue, Maa, would be my language of choice.

Inevitably, however, I write in the English language. This is because of overwhelming social and economic reasons, and especially for the reason that English is the commercial as well as the instructional language in our institutions of learning.

I therefore have had no choice but to use it as best as I can to achieve my literary goals.

However, even as I struggle to write in English, I still think in Maa and my research is done in it. My readers could, therefore, view my novels as first written in Maa before being translated into English. And, because a lot of the original

work is lost through translation, I believe my award-winning novels and indeed all the other 10 novels I have written would have been best understood had they come out in their original language.

My readers would note that

“

A challenge of nearly insurmountable degree that often faces me comes when I attempt to address my readers, not in my own voice, but in the voice of my created characters, which often means speaking in several different voices and tones. I can assure you it is not any easy putting English words into a mouth that has never spoken them.”

H.R. ole Kulet

60

The number of books that author H.R. ole Kulet has written. Two of them have won awards.

most of my creative work is set in rural areas and the characters that I invent are mostly simple pastoralists.

They live simple lives that are mostly dictated by natural atmospheric happenings that shape the environment. Consequently, the language of such characters is shaped by the environment they live in. Even their culture is borne and developed within the confines of their environment.

A challenge of nearly insurmountable degree that often faces me comes when I attempt to address my readers, not in my own voice, but in the voice of my created characters, which often means speaking in several different voices and tones.

I can assure you it is not any easy putting English words into a mouth that has never spoken them. And it is not easy interpreting their swear-words, their sighs, the clicking of their tongues and sometimes describing a whistle-sound that means so much to them.

So what you read in English is not necessarily what I would have wanted to mean. Some of the expressions are watered down during the translation, others are lost while others become mute.

Even gestures, although they may be described to the finest detail, when explained in the mother tongue, there are words, that explicitly say what they mean, which are not easy to interpret into another language.

What this means is that language is not only expressed in words. There are other non-linguistic behaviours and attributes that include gestures, body language and even meaningful expressionlessness.

What I am alluding to herein above is that, according to me, writing an award winning creative work in a language rather than that of your own is not easy.

Hypothetically, had I written *Blossoms of the Savannah* and *Vanishing Herds* in Maa, and the judges understood the language perfectly, possibly the accolades that I have earned would have been stronger.

However, winning Jomo Kenyatta Prize for Literature twice is no mean feat. It is a great achievement that I believe every creative writer should aspire to win.

MY FAVOURITE BOOK

My long walk to understanding Mandela's legacy

BY JOAKIM OMACHE

Let me start by saying that I am not a big fan of autobiographies. I consider them to be overstretched opinions, where one mostly skewers reality to suit his personal view. Given that autobiographies tend to be voluminous, I prefer reading about a person from his biggest sycophant, his harshest critic and from a neutral voice. From this cocktail, I can safely claim to have a sufficient proportion of the picture.

I broke my norm when I decided to read the autobiography of Nelson Mandela, *The Long Walk to Freedom*. Before embarking on the reading, I wasn't a big fan of Madiba, in fact I was more of a critic. I was of the opinion that the old man had been short changed into agreeing to the independence of South Africa that was only good on paper but distant from the situation on the ground.

I was more of a supporter of the hawkish Mugabe than Madiba; at least one had stood for the return of the land to the original owners, albeit at a great cost, rather than chose rhetoric which got good press but left the masses with nothing.

In retrospect, this opinion was flawed but then, I was a young man (I still am a young man) and we normally hold strong opinions.

When the great man died, the whole world mourned and the zeitgeist consisted of praise and sadness at the passing of this icon. All and sundry talked about nothing but praise for him. At that time, had you found yourself among strangers, a good ice breaker would have been any statement on Mandela's greatness (on any other day go with some *Game of Thrones* trivia).

I was also caught in these conversations a number of times, but I was the only one speaking ill of Madiba, and with zealous determination. You can imagine the consternation that always arose after I finished my comments. Since most people had minimal information and only knew him to have been in prison for 27 years, I always countered this by saying that Govan Mbeki was also imprisoned for nearly the same number of years and we do not call him a saint. I got away with it mostly because of my ignorance of Mandela.

One day in a matatu, I asked myself why I was holding a contrary opinion to the zeitgeist. The Swahili have a good proverb which roughly translates that the person who goes contrary to popular opinion is subscribing to higher evil powers.

I resolved to read his autobiography and at least get the story from his perspective before I go around pouring cold water to his vigil fire. I didn't have high expectations but as the pages ebbed away so did my previous bias.

His words brought to life a man who rose from the foundations of village life to the highest echelons of society. I got to walk with him from his village all through university and to his law practice where the seeds of freedom fighting were sown. I was also impressed by his rendition of the story: with the equality of water reacting to a stone thrown into it, there was neither pomposity nor virtue nor minuteness of vice. There are very strong lessons you will get from the book, you get to feel the sacrifice that Winnie and the family had to make and what the old man endured. It is from his story that I got to see the limit to which altruism can push someone and the good fruits which it had achieved. I will let you imagine my statements after I had finished the book.

What made me fully reverse my opinion was that after all the man had endured, he still had the content of character to forgive his transgressors and even rally the country to cheer for the Springboks while most of them preferred the opposing team. After assuming office, he was prescient enough to hand over power to the next generation and did a first of not amassing wealth once it was his turn to 'eat'.

His 'failure' can be explained by how one commentator put it; the old man had done enough to deliver freedom, we would be expecting too much from him if we expected him to deliver equality also. That was for the subsequent generations to do. This book and his story is a testament to what can be achieved when we lay aside our selfish interests and join in the universal creed of extending opportunity to every willing hand.

Tell us about a book that changed your life in not more than 800 words. Send your story to satnation@ke.nationmedia.com



Common diseases that affect your crops

TREE SEEDLINGS BUSINESS

I wish to know the legal requirements I need to meet to start a commercial tree nursery.

Farmer

There is no legal requirement for setting up a commercial tree nursery. It is, however, important that you do a market survey. You also need to have a regular water source. Your farm should be accessible, maybe near the road, and the tree seedlings must be palatable to targeted market to make your business sustainable.

Prof Lenah Nakhone Wati is an expert in Soil Environmental Chemistry at Egerton University

HARD SKIN ON RABBIT EARS

I have been rearing rabbits and I have noticed they have developed a hard skin on the ears, eyes and nose and after sometimes they die. What is the name of the disease and how do I curb it?

Farmer

From the symptoms you have indicated, they may be suffering from ear mites. The hard skin you have observed is as a result of mite irritating the lining of the ears causing it to produce serum, which hardens into a crust, a condition commonly referred to as ear cankers. This condition is highly infectious and is usually spread by contact. Housing also plays a key role in control of the mites, among other external parasites. The cages should have wire floors to reduce the condition, but the best control is by always using miticides recommended for dogs and cats and cleaning the rabbit pens. It is also advisable to have quarantine cages for new and suspected rabbits where they can be monitored for diseases and external parasites before being introduced in the brood. To treat the rabbits effectively, contact a trained and licensed animal health personnel.

Wangui, James Chege, Department of Animal Sciences, Egerton University
prejaw@gmail.com



MAIZE DISEASE

What symptoms should I watch to know if my maize is affected by the deadly necrosis disease?

Richard

First, mottles begin to form at the base of young leaves and extend upwards towards the tips. The leaves begin to die leading to a symptom known as dead heart. The maize plant may become stunted in some cases and ages prematurely, leading to eventual death. For mature crops, the maize husks dry prematurely, but upon opening, there is no grain. Rotation with crops such as sorghum, millet, Irish potatoes, chickpea, sweet potatoes and cassava, among others, for two to three seasons before going back to maize can help to contain the disease. This will suppress the inocula and velocity of spread of the disease. Farmers must avoid growing of maize continuously on the same piece or near previously infected fields.

Seeds of Gold Team,
Egerton University



THE BEST ONIONS TO GROW

I want to plant onions in Nakuru. Which is the best month to grow and what variety do you recommend? I would also like information on whether to use seedlings, onion sets or seeds for good returns, and the diseases to look out for.

Harun

Onions are a high value crop. If you have a greenhouse, that would be the best place to grow because you will do it all-year round. Also, if you have constant water supply throughout the year, it will work best for you. Red bulb onion is good because its market is better than the white one. On pests and diseases, watch out for thrips, which punch silvery holes on leaves and fungal purple blotch is terrible. What you must do is buy the best fungicide and pesticide to protect your onions. However, don't apply these chemicals on onions before you observe any serious damage caused by pest and diseases that would lead to economic loss. Use them only when it's necessary because residue of these chemicals are dangerous to human beings.

Peter Caleb
Horticulture Scientist,
Department of Crops Horticulture and soils, Egerton University
petercaleb68@gmail.com

MY COW HAS REFUSED TO CALVE

Hi, I have a cow which since last year August has not calved despite being served four times. It has since gone silent. I tried GNRH and Prostaglandins hormones, which still didn't work. The vet confirmed that the ovaries are okay. Please advice on the action I should take.

Farmer

There are a number of causes to no-heat signs (anoestrus) in a cow, including post-partum disease, mineral deficiencies and insufficient intake of foods that provide energy.

It is important to note that when cows are over-conditioned or under-conditioned, they are likely to develop anoestrus. High yielders take much longer to resume cyclicity after calving due to what is called negative energy balance (this is where energy expended exceeds energy intake). Other times, especially if the ovaries were normal on rectal palpation, it might be that the cow has silent heat (this is where the eggs develop and are ovulated without outward signs of heat).

If poor body condition is the reason, nutrition should be improved, incorporating well-balanced diet with enough roughage, concentrates and mineral salts, specifically made for dairy cows. Sometimes the cow might not require hormones but improved health management, including feeding.

Dr J. Mburu,
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine,
Veterinary Clinical studies department

OVER 12 COWS ON TWO ACRES

My name is Cyrus Mabui, a dairy farmer in Kirinyaga, Kerugoya. I grow maize in a leased two-acre farm under irrigation. Currently, I have two mature lactating cows and six heifers, which are expectant and one is on dry cow period, that is, it will calve in two months. I want to know:

1. Whether the land will be able to support these cows after calving?
2. Should I continue with maize silage feeds?

The land is enough for your cows. If you have another source of feeds, you can stock the silage until your cow calves down.

Anthony Mugatha, Department of Animal Science, Egerton University
anthonymugatha@yahoo.com

STUNTED PIGS

I got interested in rearing pigs and happened to have bought "slow growing piglets". What should I do?

John

Slow growth rate can be due to three main reasons: nutrition, genetics and management, which include housing. Pigs, like other animals, and more specifically, meat producers, require high-quality rations to ensure optimal growth. The rations should provide adequate nutrients for maintenance and muscle build-up. Poor rations result in low growth rates. On the other hand, the rate at which the feeds taken are converted to the muscles is highly dependent on the genetic make-up of the animal. Some breeds have higher feed conversion



efficiency than others, for instance, a Large White or Landrace breed will have a higher feed conversion efficiency than the Duroc, but less adaptable to tropical conditions than the latter. Finally, growth rate can be influenced to a greater extent by management practices. Of greater significance are parasites and disease control and hygiene. On the other hand, other environmental stresses such as extreme cold or heat, and noise, among others, can lead to slow growth rates. However, this can be minimised with proper housing and location.

Wangui, James Chege, Egerton University

WHEN TO INTRODUCE NEW POULTRY LAYERS

I have the following questions:

- 1) How long does it take for hybrid layers to start laying, and for how long should they lay?
- 2) When should I introduce the next stock to ensure continuous flow of eggs?
- 3) How many types of egg trays do we have in terms of capacity?

Opudo Thadayo

For a flock of layer pullets, the practical age for laying is usually from 20 weeks onwards. Others start at week 19. This many-a-time goes up to 72 weeks and at times 84. This, however, depends on nutrition, lighting regime and management during brooding and growing stages. The next batch of layers can best be introduced when the laying lot is aged 45 weeks as this will give room to meet the costs from the eggs sold. For trays, the standard capacity is 30 eggs, others carry up to 60 but this is for packaging. It is in incubators that egg trays have different egg capacities.

Felix Akatch Opinya,
Animal Sciences, Egerton University,
akatchf@yahoo.com

BEAN SEEDS BREEDER

My name is Joel Odhiambo. I am interested in Chelalang, Tasha and Ciankui beans from Egerton University. I want to grow them as a contracted farmer in Kabondo, Homa Bay County. Please pass me necessary contacts.

EDITOR: Talk to Prof Paul Kimurto, Coordinator AgroScience Park, Egerton University on kimurtopk@gmail.com for more information.

BOREHOLE DRILLING

Sometime back, I had asked for contacts of companies that drill water at an affordable cost. Kindly assist.

Cecilia

EDITOR: Please consult the online version of Yellow Pages. There are various companies listed in the directory.

VETIVER GRASS

I am a farmer in Thika and I would like to get in touch with Caleb Omollo from Migori, who grows vetiver grass.

Francis Nyioke

EDITOR: Omollo is available on 0714943355.

FREE-RANGE POULTRY FARMER

I need to get in touch with poultry farmer Esther Wanza. I want to buy chickens.

Evaristus Kitemanga

I was so impressed with the story of the Kitemanga chicken farmer. I need her phone number please.

Kemunto Priscilla

I am interested in buying four-week improved kienyeji chicks from Esther Wanza. Kindly share her contacts.

Kiboi

EDITOR: Please talk to the farmer through Mutunga Katia on 0718084478.



DAIRY GOATS

I am a small-scale farmer based in Kisumu keeping dairy goats. I was impressed by the story on yoghurt production. I am requesting if you could give me Waweru's contact.

Clifford

I'm keen on yoghurt trade. What is Joseph Waweru's contact?

Dickson

EDITOR: Joseph Waweru is available 0722455979.

ASK THE EXPERTS



Prof Bebe



Prof Kimurto

Do you have any question or enquiry on agribusiness, marketing, logistics, processing, innovation, and technology? Our pool of experts from Egerton University will respond to your questions with proper advice. Please send your questions to: satnation@ke.nationmedia.com. Read us online at nation.co.ke/seeds_of_gold

and animals

Lucy Ruga harvests mangoes in her orchard in Nyeri County. She sells the fruits to traders in the area at Sh10 each.
JOSEPH KANYI | NATION



IDEA THAT WON ME A MILLION

Please link me with Nixon Muturi, the tuber farmer from Nyeri.

Davidson Kirori

EDITOR: Talk to Muturi through our reporter on 0711777008.

CRISPS COMPANY

I am Muturi James from Nguny Njeru, North Kinangop. I would wish to talk to a crisps company you featured sometimes back.

Farmer

EDITOR: You can reach Urban Bites on Production@norda.biz, telephone number: 020 2367882/2 and Facebook: Urban Bites 254.

FISH FARMER

I would like to get in touch with Prof Ngugi to learn more on fish farming.

Esther

EDITOR: Please reach the farmer on 0723557760.

RABBIT FARMING

I am interested in rabbit farming in

Mtwapa, Kilifi County. Right now I have six rabbits. I would like to get the contacts of Alcare Group and Rabak.

Sudi Abdalla

I am Philip from Bungoma North. I wish to get the contacts of Alcare Group.

EDITOR: You can contact Peter Waiganjo (Rabak) on 0721219092 and George Kibanya (Alcare) on 0725893963.

APPRECIATION

I would like to appreciate *Seeds of Gold*. Personally, the pull-out has really helped me adopt farming techniques that are giving good returns. Keep it up!

Macharia N. Calvin

EDITOR: Thank you for your support. Keep reading.

SPINACH FARMER

Kindly tell me how I can get in touch with Rosaline Wanjiru, the spinach farmer from Giakanja, Nyeri.

EDITOR: Please talk to the farmer through our reporter on 0723257415.



Lucy Kaari in her maize farm in Tigania, Meru.
LEOPOLD OBI | NATION

STORAGE» MOISTURE IN GRAINS MUST NOT EXCEED 12 PER CENT

The smart extension officer in my pocket

All Lucy does is send a text message from her phone to get crop husbandry tips

BY LEOPOLD OBI

satnation@ke.nationmedia.com

The road that leads to Makandi in Tigania West, Meru, is dusty and bumpy. On both sides of the road, one can see pigeon peas, maize, beans and dolichos beans sticking out of the red alluvial soil.

It is apparent that the crops have done well this season. The bumper harvest is evident at Makandi Trading Centre, a few kilometres away, where farmers in the region own a grain store.

Lucy Kaari, a farmer and a Village Knowledge Worker

(VKW), attributes the improved harvest to a mobile phone software farmers have been using.

Dubbed Community Knowledge Worker Search, this smartphone application allows a VKW, who is an extension officer, to access substantial information on crop husbandry.

This includes information on diseases, number of seeds per hole, varieties of seeds to plant, spacing, types of fertiliser at each stage and pesticides to spray.

The village extension worker shares this information with local farmers.

The application also has question forms where technical agricultural queries that the extension officer cannot respond to are forwarded to relevant experts.

"This interactive technology has enabled us to access farming extension services at the click of a button."

Lucy, who is the only extension officer in Makandi with

a phone installed with the app, explains that to use the software, she opens it on her phone, keys in the password and the details she wants.

The information is then displayed on the screen and she shares with farmers.

The programme was introduced to the farmers by Farm Concern International (FCI) in collaboration with Grameen Foundation and the Ministry of Agriculture officials.

Moisture metre

"We collected 295 90kg bags of maize last season from our 14 farmers, which we later sold at Sh3,500," she says. "This season, we are to get more because we were able to reach many farmers through the extension services."

Farmers in the region recount that before the advent of the CKW Search, many of them were not aware of proper use of fertiliser, seed-spacing and use of certified

seeds. "The CKW Search has transformed our farming. We are now able to farm with precision and a purpose. We know why using certified seeds is important," Mary Nkoroi, a farmer, says.

From her two acres, Lucy has harvested over 30 bags of maize this season, up from about 25 last season.

Besides the knowledge they share, the farmers have come together and formed a group, through which they collect and sell their products.

"In the past, individual farmers would sell to brokers a 90kg bag of maize for as little as Sh1,500. We now sell our produce through Makandi Commercial Village Group."

The farmers have rented a building at a local centre and have it equipped with a weighing scale and moisture metre.

"For safe storage of grains, farmers must check the moisture content using a moisture tester. Grains must have moisture content of not more than 12 per cent," Eliud Mutembei, a manager at FCI, says.

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ANNIVERSARY OF LIONS CLUB,
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MANAGEMENT» DE-TOEING BIRDS PREVENTS CANNIBALISM

How to keep your turkeys happier

Free-range farmers should create paddocks, which help to prevent outbreak of diseases

BY MARY MUCHUNGUH

drmary.muchunguh@gmail .com

In the last issue, we talked about why you should consider keeping turkeys. Many readers showed interest in the birds. Today we offer you tips on how to manage turkeys.

Turkeys can be reared in two ways, free-range or intensive system. The free range system is the most suitable for the average smallholder farmer because it is cheaper in terms of investment and management.

Turkeys are aggressive scavengers and, therefore, would thrive in free range rearing systems. It is recommended that one should rear 60 birds on quarter an acre.

The farmer is required to fence the area and construct a night shelter at the rate of 2.5 to 3.5 square foot per bird. One should also create paddocks for rotational purposes as well as disease prevention.

The greatest disadvantage in the free range system is increased parasite (worms and mites) susceptibility and predators. It is, therefore, necessary to regularly de-worm and dip the birds.

In intensive farming system, heavy investment

is required. This mainly goes into the construction of shelters, watering systems, feeding structures and feeds. The shelters should be well-ventilated, water and predator-proof.

This system also requires intensive care and management thus more human labour is required, which means additional expenses.

Litter/bedding (sawdust) lining the houses should be changed regularly to prevent the spread of diseases. The houses should be regularly fumigated and disinfected. This system leads to increased productivity and reduces disease-incidence, especially worms.

Feeding

The birds feed on commercial mash and pellets, which are readily available in agrovet. However, inclusion of greens in the diet is highly recommended. For the greens, farmers can use lettuce, spinach or sukuma wiki.

TURKEYS ARE AGGRESSIVE SCAVENGERS AND, THEREFORE, WOULD THRIVE IN FREE-RANGE REARING"

60

The number of turkeys a farmer should rear on quarter an acre for maximum benefits.

Farmers can also invest in hydroponic farming for supply of green matter. Use of hydroponic fodder is cost-effective as compared to commercial feeds. It is also important to supplement the diet with calcium to help make the legs stronger.

Clean water should be provided throughout the day. The feeders and drinkers should be cleaned daily and disinfected.

Other routine practices

De-beaking: This prevents cannibalism and feather pecking. Debeaking is done when the poults are between two and five weeks old. A farmer can engage a veterinary officer or use traditional methods like hot metal blade.

De-toeing: This is done mainly on male poults three days after hatching. Detoeing prevents cannibalism which commonly occurs when the birds are kept under stressful conditions.

De-snooding: It encompasses the removal of the red snoods or dew bills (the fleshy extension found near the base of the neck). This is necessary as the snood is often pecked thus resulting to head wounds. The excision of the snoods should be undertaken by trained personnel at three weeks of age.

Handling turkeys: One should pick the birds by the legs but this is often discouraged. Young poults should be picked from behind and tucked under the arm, with the legs tightly secured by the other hand.

Dr Muchunguh is a livestock expert





Paul Ruga in his banana farm in Gatero, Nyeri County after defeating moles.
JOSEPH KANYI | NATION

DISEASES» PRUNING HELPS TO PROTECT BANANAS FROM CIGAR END ROT

Moles chewed up my Sh38,000 bananas

Ruga has now found a simple way to keep the rodents at bay after trying various methods, including hunting them physically on his farm

BY EVALYNE GITHINJI
satnation@ke.nationmedia.com

Standing in his four-acre banana farm, where he has 308 plants, Paul Ruga has been a disturbed farmer.

The farmer, who grows tissue culture bananas in Nyeri, has been battling moles for several months.

The moles, which multiplied fast in his farm, destroyed his bananas worth about Sh40,000.

"I knew there was a problem late in 2012 when I saw small mounds of soil on my farm, but I did not give it much thought at first."

Later while walking around his farm, Ruga realised the problem was bigger than he had thought after he saw several bananas were leaning towards the ground.

"After uprooting one of the bananas, I saw burrows made by the moles in the ground. I was enraged. After assessing the damage, I realised I had lost several stems of bananas which would have fetched me good money," he tells *Seeds of Gold*.

Ruga bought rat poison, put at different places in the farm to kill the rodents.

"At first the moles ate the poison but after a while, the method failed. Moles are intelligent. They smelt the poison and avoided it and continued destroying my bananas."

Desperate, Ruga turned to a certain firm that specialises in killing rodents and other pests.

He was paying Sh300 for each

CONTROLLING THE RODENTS

■ Ensuring that moles favourite foods like grub worms are not on your farm will help keep them at bay.

■ Gardens that receive too much water are prone to moles, therefore, ensure your land has proper drainage and don't over irrigate.

■ Research indicates that castor oil, which is a popular ingredient in mole repellents, if applied on crops helps to ward off the rodents.

■ Planting crops like marigolds, alliums, mole plant and castor beans helps to repel the rodents.

mole captured live. This technique, however, turned out to be expensive. Later, he learned from fellow farmers that use of pig manure can help stop the rodents.

"I bought the manure from a farmer and started using it. I was overjoyed when I realised the moles had disappeared from my farm."

More light

The farmer overcame the problem late last year after losing about 30 banana plants, which would fetch him about Sh38,000 per harvest. He applies the pig manure in liquid form at the base of the banana stems and the burrows where moles hide.

"The moles do not like the smell of pig manure. Although it does not kill the rodents, it repels them."

And as he thought he had won the war against the rodents, his bananas

were also attacked by Cigar End Rot disease this year. Cigar End Rot is a fungal disease caused by *Verticillium theobromae* and *Trachysphaera fructigena*. The pathogen normally attacks bananas through the flower causing a dry rot.

"I lost 17 banana plants to this disease, which would give me up to Sh20,000 per harvest."

"I sought expert advice and was advised to prune the plants to expose them to more light," adds the farmer who grows Grand-Nain, Williams, Uganda Green, Gikanda and Ng'ombe Nusu varieties.

Ruga is now back on track. In a month, he sells at least 56 bunches of bananas in Nairobi and Nyeri each weighing about 35kg. A kilo goes for Sh11.

Kill pests

He is the chairman of Nyeri County Bananas Farmers Cooperative Society Limited, started in 2012, and has 400 members.

Francis Wambugu, an agriculturalist with Dorkam Enterprises, which is under the Kenya Agricultural Productivity Agribusiness Project (KAPAP), notes that moles have affected many banana farmers in Nyeri County.

"The most recommended way to solve the problem permanently is by trapping the moles because you kill them leaving no survival chances," says Wambugu.

"Most farmers complain that trapping is expensive, but it is the surest technique for now."

While he has heard about farmers using pig manure as a repellent, he says the method is not yet scientifically proven.

"Proper farm management, particularly, pruning provides sufficient light for the bananas helping to kill vectors that transmit Cigar End Rot disease." He advises that farmers must thus prune their bananas continuously.

Switching from miraa was the best decision

BY FELIX MUGENDI
satnation@ke.nationmedia.com

MIRAA FARMERS in Embu and Meru counties are currently facing huge losses following the ban of the stimulant in Britain.

Prices of the crop have plummeted to the lowest level, with a kilo that used to go for up to Sh2,000 now retailing at Sh200.

A good number of farmers are now contemplating uprooting the crop that has in the past been a cash cow, while others are clinging on hope.

Amid this state of despair, Francis Mugo is counting himself lucky. Mugo switched from miraa to banana farming in 2010, and going by what is happening to miraa farmers currently in the region, he believes he made the best decision.

"Until I ventured into banana farming, I had nothing to show from my toil as a farmer for six years. Miraa had good prices, but this depended with the season. Sometimes we could sell a kilo at Sh2,000, then it would drop to less than Sh100 when there was glut," says Mugo, who had 500 miraa stems that he uprooted gradually.

When you visit his banana farm in Embu County, ensure you carry a notebook and a pen to jot tips on farming bananas.

"Bananas need a lot of manure and light. To get the best yields, a farmer is supposed to start pruning immediately after the maroon flower spouts," counsels Mugo, who has farmed his way into becoming one of the top banana farmers in the region. He now has about 400 banana stems and employs three casuals regularly.

"Prune a leaf or two each week. When they are ready, they should be having three or four leaves."

He advises that if one prunes more than two leaves at a go or fails to prune the expected leaves on weekly basis, the crops may fail to produce the required weight and quality.

And they also fall prey to Cigar End Rot disease, which is common.

The farmer uses two wheelbarrows of well-composted manure to plant a banana shoot in a three by three feet hole.

He picked the tips from seminars organised by Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Project (KAPAP) in Embu.

Mugo, who is based in Kawanjara, Runyenjes, grows the Fia and Williams varieties. "I started with 300 banana

stems, which I bought at Sh120 each from a farmer in Karatina. In the first harvest, I pocketed over Sh100,000, which motivated me. I sold each banana at Sh15 a kilo"

To plant the bananas, he thoroughly mixes soil with manure, then puts in a hole, wets the mixture and then plants the shoots.

On average, his bananas weigh between 90 and 115kg when mature.

"The good thing with bananas is that they produce many shoots. Farmers can thus multiply their stock very fast," says Mugo, who notes one of the challenges he faces is finding best prices for his produce.

To ensure there is enough light in his banana farm, the farmer uses the window method farming. This is where one inter-crops bananas with other plants.

Anthony Gateri, Embu KAPAP co-ordinator, says in the window method, a farmer divides the farm into several square parts. He then grows bananas on the edges of the squares and horticultural crops on the inside.

He praises the method as ideal for farmers with small pieces of land.

500

The number of miraa plants the farmer had before he gradually replaced them with bananas.

Mugo sells his produce through a group known as Kawanjara Commercial Village. The farmers collect their produce and sell to a trader who ferries them to Nairobi.

"My banana venture has pushed me into dairy farming for manure. Banana leaves and stems are also food for animals so they do not go to waste after harvesting the fruits."

Alex Kinyua, an agricultural officer based in Runyenjes sub-county, says for better harvest, one should grow four bananas in each hole in pure orchard strands method where a farmers fills the entire land with bananas.

"In a window method, a farmer can allow up to eight shoots if he is able to apply enough manure because there is plenty of space to allow sunlight."

The officer says banana farming is not a complex venture because it is not labour-intensive while the market is guaranteed with little price fluctuations.



Francis Mugo and his wife in their farm in Embu County. FELIX MUGENDI | NATION

side hustle

PRODUCTION» YOU MUST HAVE A RELIABLE SOURCE OF WATER TO GET IT RIGHT IN FARMING. WATER CONTRIBUTES UP TO 80 PER CENT

I farm only after finding the market for m

Muriu has turned the dry slopes of Eburu hills in Naivasha into a lush garden where he grows various crops for the export market

BY JULIUS SIGEI

satnation@ke.nationmedia.com

The tall acacia trees lining the murram road off the Nairobi – Nakuru highway, just after Naivasha Town, form a thick canopy that sends a cool sensation to the body, refreshing beyond compare.

We drive on, occasionally running into an eland or a buffalo in this land that has remained idyllic and primeval despite decades of colonial plunder, rapid urbanisation and environmental degradation.

After some 20 minutes further north, we arrive at Lake Naivasha, a vast expanse of fresh water where men and pelicans are locked in a mortal combat for fish.

It is here on the shores of Kenya's only fresh water lake on the floor of the Rift Valley that we meet Edward Muriu inspecting a water pump.

"This is our lifeline, we add value to water which is the heart of our farming venture. This pump enables us to get the 25,000 litres of water we need daily for our activities," Muriu, the proprietor of Rubi Ranch Fresh Produce, tells us as we begin a tour of his more than 1,000-acre farm, 350 of which hosts cabbages, broccoli, chilies, baby corn, fine beans, snow peas, sugar snaps and other horticultural produce that he sells to exporters and the local market.

"Taming water is what will unlock agriculture in this country. If you get it right with water, you will be 80 per cent on your way to making it in farming."

200

The loan in millions the farmer borrowed from a bank to add to his savings to start the farm.

He chose the open field irrigation system, rather than greenhouses because of its flexibility. "If I choose to shift to wheat or hay farming, for example, I will do so without adding anything."

The sprawling farm uses the central pivot irrigation system fitted with a General Packet Radio Service to ensure each plant gets the correct millilitre of water.

How did Muriu, a successful lawyer in his own right, decide that farming was the way to go? How does he manage the delicate business with his full time job as the lead partner at MMC Africa Law as well as chairing many boards? How does he secure the market for his massive produce and ensure profitability?

These are the questions we grappled with as we walked in between the lush green produce in various stages of ripening, a

metaphor of the difference water makes in farming, seeing as the surrounding areas are a sea of dust after the skies refused to open over Naivasha.

"I went into large-scale commercial agriculture three years ago. I saw urbanisation was gobbling up all arable land as we built stone jungles in the name of real estate. I knew farming was the next big thing as someone had to feed all these people even as land gets smaller and smaller," he tells *Seeds of Gold*, stopping at a shed where tens of women were sorting out snow peas in preparation for the market.

More than 200 others are spread over the farm on the foot of Eburu hills.

"Agriculture is the venture with the greatest multiplier effect from direct employment, manufacturing, transport and logistics, airline, not to mention it is the third largest foreign exchange earner. In the law firm, I employ only 100 people. Now look at all these people. We currently directly employ between 250 and 300 here."

To start, Muriu took Sh50 million from his savings and borrowed another Sh200 million from Equity Bank to buy the land "and put all this: electric fence, tractors, trucks and irrigation machinery".

The farm now turns over between Sh150 million and Sh200 million a year.

But it was not before he did market research complete with orders and locked up prices that he embarked on this investment.

"I approached exporters and other big markets and I sold them my investment idea, expertise and readiness to produce the best. Only then did I go to the farm to till. I am not the kind of farmer who plants and prays that it rains. Then when the bumper crop comes, he prays for the market," he says with measured confidence, adding that the difference between commercial farming and subsistence production is that the former goes about it with the mind while the latter farms with the heart.

Having locked up the prices with the buyers, Muriu is to manage costs to ensure he is in business, as he has only so much room within which to manoeuvre.

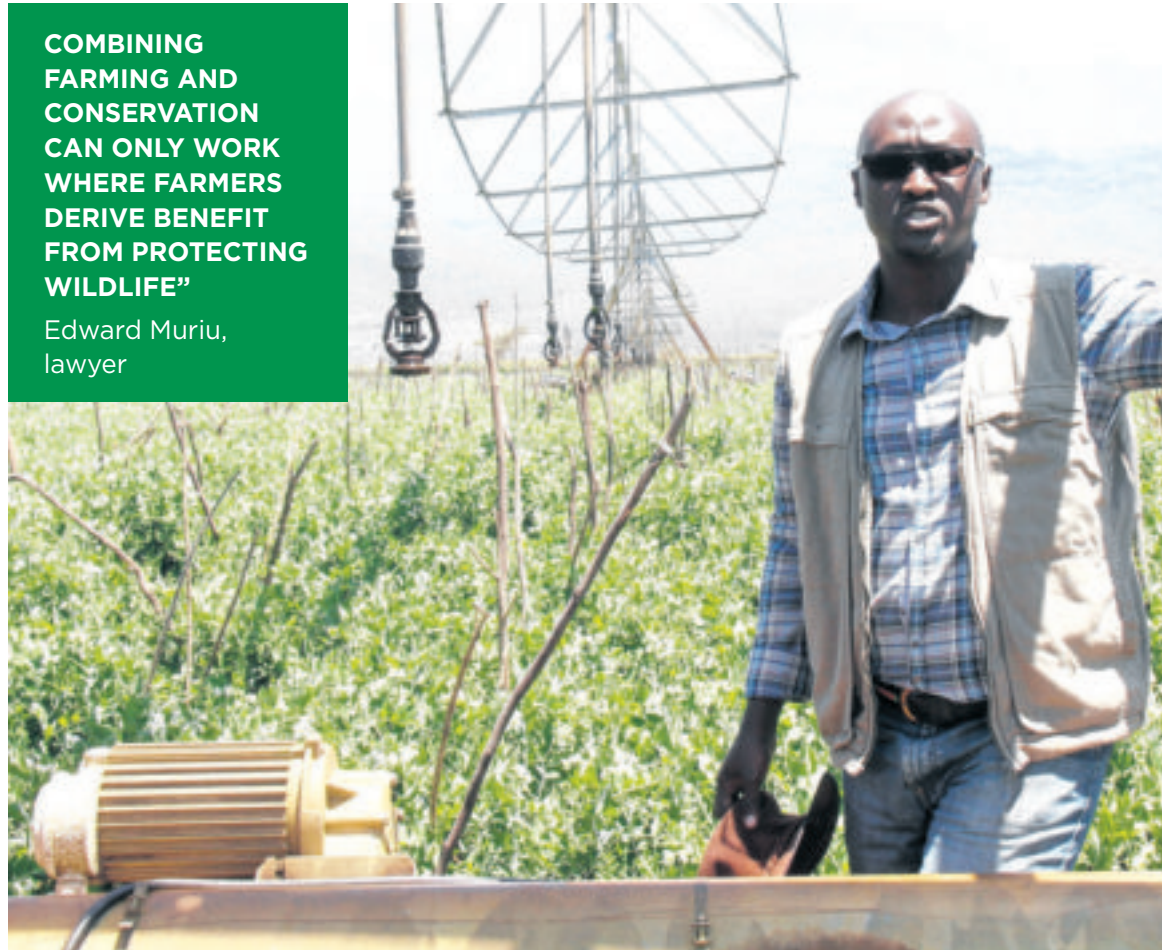
"Initially, labour costs were astronomical and were threatening our margins. It was then that we came up with paying per piece work where the land or work is subdivided into portions and paid for when sufficiently completed," Charles Kamutu, the operations director chips in.

He currently maintains expenditure at 40 per cent inclusive of labour, power, water and inputs.

Margins, however, vary from crop to crop. "To produce a head of cabbage, for instance, we spend Sh4 and sell it at between Sh12 and Sh30 depending on the season. Actually we make money from the volumes. We currently

COMBINING FARMING AND CONSERVATION CAN ONLY WORK WHERE FARMERS DERIVE BENEFIT FROM PROTECTING WILDLIFE"

Edward Muriu, lawyer



Edward Muriu in his 1,000-acre Rubi Ranch Fresh Produce farm in Naivasha explains how an irrigation system works. Below: Workers sort out French beans for sale. JEFF ANGOTE | NATION



do 80,000 heads of cabbage per month, which sellers come to pick their orders from the farm," says Kamutu.

To further manage costs, Muriu has bought four Tuk Tuk-pulled haulers to transport produce around the farm, saving on the fuel that should have gone to tractors, which are now left for heavy duties.

"A Tuk Tuk consumes only 10 litres a week," quips Phineas Kabaka, the production manager and the chief agronomist who ensures no crop leaves the farm without adherence to hygiene and safety standards.

"But the game changer really in agriculture is value addition. For instance, if we sell a kilo of

Edward Muriu's house at his Rubi Ranch Fresh Produce farm in Naivasha. JEFF ANGOTE | NATION



French beans to an exporter at Sh100, he will sell it at Sh500 at the European Union market. And yet all he does is to sort it, grade it and pack it," says Muriu.

He has now sought international certification and he is

putting up a pack house so that he can begin packing and exporting directly.

The two managers, one an accomplished agronomist and the other a food scientist, run the farm.

NT OF SUCCESS

my produce



derive benefit from protecting wildlife. We have started lobbying the government to allow us breed wild animals like buffaloes and antelopes and sell them to generate revenue to support in their protection. This is the only way the government can support the private sector to combat poaching."

Muriu supports the local Loldia Primary School to the tune of Sh2 million a year. The school houses 2,500 students, most of whose parents work at his farm.

"The money goes into employing 15 teachers and feeding pupils to keep them in class."

The 45-year-old team leader and founding partner at MMC Africa Law, which specialises in Commercial Law, Real Estate and Banking, and Commercial Dispute Resolutions, made his first shilling selling *Nairobi Law Monthly* while in second year at the University of Nairobi.

"We were at the university when agitation for political pluralism was at its peak and students were hungry for information. So I went to Gitobu Imanyara, who was publishing *Nairobi Law Monthly*, and told him I can take the magazine to all the campuses, a proposal he agreed to and which gave me very good margins. I was selling up to 3,000 copies a month."

Even though the Gatanga-born Muriu was employed immediately he cleared law school, he was a restless entrepreneur and soon left to start his law firm after a transaction he did earned him his first million at the age of 24.

"I rented a 250 square foot office at Town House, then a leading address in the (Nairobi) city centre, and started representing road accident victims. I did this so well for about five years when insurance companies bought me and I crossed over to represent them."

Farming is one of his many interests that range from real estate to the hospitality industry.

He has now set his sights on the Nairobi Stock Exchange.

"But before that we need to do a private placement of shares to increase the current land under cultivation and construct a pack house for processing and packaging for export."

"At its full capacity, Rubi Ranch Fresh Produce will be exporting 30 tonnes of fresh produce every day."

But besides getting a daily brief, Muriu also regularly visits the farm where he has a weekend home perched atop a 300-metre hill from where he overlooks his empire.

It is also at this point that you can see breath-taking scenes of the lake and beyond, overlooking the Abardares to the North East and Mt Longonot to the South.

"Farming is fun and I wanted it to remain so. That is why I have this home where I also rest whenever I am not camping," says the nature lover who regularly goes sight-seeing across the country.

Because the Pivot Irrigation System does not work where there are trees, Muriu has had to clear lots of them, a situation he is now mitigating by planting indigenous and avocado trees.

He is targeting 40,000 avocados of the fast maturing Hass variety, in the next one year.

"Combining farming and conservation can only work where farmers



A worker harvests peas at Edward Muriu's farm in Naivasha. JEFF ANGOTE | NATION

TECHNOLOGY» CCTV CAMERAS HELP FARMERS TO MONITOR POULTRY

Small gift that turned me into a poultry farmer



Odongo is slowly building a poultry empire from 50 chicks he received from a friend

BY HABIL ODONGO

satnation@ke.nationmedia.com

If there is any agribusiness venture I would recommend anyone to engage in without thinking twice, it is poultry farming.

I find poultry keeping not labour intensive, but very profitable.

I keep various birds in my farm in Rarieda, Siaya County. They include turkeys, doves, penguins, guinea fowls and chicken.

I started with about 50 over one-month-old chicks back in 2008. The 50 birds, mostly chicken, were handed to me for free by a friend called David Kimathi.

Kimathi runs a poultry farm in Ngong, Nairobi. He was eager that I also engage in the same venture because it was profitable.

But before he gave me the birds, he advised that I undertake training in poultry from Kenchic, which I did for two days.

The training was on vaccination, feeding and brooding.

I ferried the birds from Nairobi, where I live, to my rural home in Siaya.

After six months, I sold about 30 birds to traders at Sh800 each.

I used the money to increase my brood by buying 300 one-day-old Kenbro chicks at Sh100 each from my friend Kimathi.

The birds have now multiplied to more than 2,000 of various species, including doves, guinea pigs, guinea fowls and chicken. I have other farms where I grow crops, trees and keep fish.



Due to irregular supply of electricity in Rarieda, I incubate the eggs at home in Nairobi and after hatching, I ferry the chicks there.

I have realised that the secret to minimise on the costs of feeds and other expenses is to import them from Uganda.

I buy my feeds from stockists in Uganda because there they are cheaper. A 90kg bag of maize germ in Uganda is Sh800 but here it is about Sh1,500.

Besides commercial feeds, I feed my birds on *omena*, sunflower and cotton cakes and maize germ, which I also buy cheaply in Uganda. I spend up to Sh40,000 a month on feeds.

I get about 2,000 eggs every day which go for between Sh10 and Sh30. I sell the other birds, turkeys and guinea fowls for between Sh1,500 and Sh4,000.

I advise fellow farmers not to venture into any kind of business without training because it may cost

JACOB OWITI | NATION
Habil Odongo, 44, (right) with a friend in his Rarieda farm in Siaya. The farmer keeps different birds that he sells in Kisumu, Siaya and Kisii.

you much if you do not know what to do.

I am a firm believer in technology, hence the reason why I use it to run my poultry farm. I have installed two cameras on my farm to help me monitor the birds through my smart phone and for security purposes.

The technology is called Remote View Monitoring. It is able to take pictures of people coming in and out and relay them to my smartphone.

That means I walk with my farm in my pocket because I can tell everything that is going on there from wherever I am.

To use the technology, one must have a good smartphone that has faster Internet connection and can host the software.

A US-based friend helped me buy the gadgets, which he uses at his home here in Kenya. I invested over Sh200,000 in the gadgets.

Through the technology, I can see from Nairobi what my workers are doing and how the birds are faring. I also keep tilapia and mud fish in 10 ponds. I embraced fish farming following the 2011 Economic Stimulus Package.

I sell fingerlings and fish to traders in Siaya at between Sh5 and Sh300 each.

For trees, I grow blue gum and gravelia. My dream is to run my own saw mill.

I bought the seedlings from Kenya Forestry research Institute at Sh10 each.

— As told to Everline Okewo

50

The number of birds the farmer started with in 2008. The number has grown to 2,000.

Are you engaging in any agribusiness? Tell us briefly via satnation@ke.nationmedia.com. Please include your telephone number.

urban farming

EARNINGS» GOOD PAY ENABLES WORKERS TO CONCENTRATE ON THE FARM AND TAKE GOOD CARE OF THE COWS

Where cows watch TV to produce more milk

Music and soap operas are what farm manager Mathenge uses to make his boss' cows relax. Each cow produces at least 25 litres of milk a day.



Cows watch television at Ndykak Investments farm in Nakuru.
CAROLINE CHEBET | NATION

BY RACHEL KIBUI
satnation@ke.nationmedia.com

Beautiful bungalows and maisonettes line up Section 58, an upper income estate in Nakuru.

Most of the homes have neat lawns and flower beds, making the environment classy, the reason why the area is one of the most sought-after in the county.

It is hard to imagine that one can engage in any kind of farming in this posh neighbourhood located between the Nairobi-Nakuru highway and Lake Nakuru National Park.

However, one farmer keeps 18 dairy cows in Gate Four on a quarter acre.

The cows live in a 15 by 22 feet shed. The same area has the capacity to host up to 24 cows.

You would be forgiven to think that the cows are trained on good hygiene given the cleanliness of the shed.

At the far end of the room hosting the cowsheds is a television set – for the cows and the four workers.

“I travelled to Netherlands two years ago and found out that cows not only like listening to music, but also watching television,” says Peter Mathenge, the manager of the farm called Ndykak Investments.

Mathenge alternates television and music so that the cows do not get bored.

The farm's four attendants work in shifts of two, day and night to ensure the cows are attended to round the clock.

“They clean the sheds early in the morning and late evening using detergents and if necessary in between to make sure the place is clean.”

Their duties also include feeding the animals, according to the instructed ratios.

“We feed them with fodder

thrice a day; each meal is usually 10kg bringing it to a total of 30kg a day for mature animals,” says Mathenge.

The thorough cleaning is what has enabled the family to maintain high standards of hygiene, and avoid polluting the environment since 1992 when they transferred the animals to the estate.

The owner of the home, Mzee Joram Kamau (now deceased), a founder of one of the leading supermarket chains in the country, was affected by politically instigated ethnic violence that hit Rongai, where he was living.

His children advised him to move from Rongai to Nakuru but he would not imagine parting with his three cows.

30

The total number of kilos of feeds each cow eats in a day for it to be productive.

“His love for cows was what stood between him and his decision to move to Nakuru where he would be safer,” recounts Mathenge. One of his sons offered to transport the three cows to Section 58, where he rented the house that they have since bought.

“The old man did not believe that his grandchildren should drink milk bought from shops or any other source.”

After he passed on in 1993, according to Mathenge, his son took over the farm to keep his father's dream alive.

From the five lactating cows, they get more than 100 litres each day, with each going for Sh50. They also sell at least 15 heifers annually, each at Sh200,000.

Dr Githui Kaba, a livestock expert in Nakuru, notes that like human beings, animals get tired, tensed and fatigued.

“Soft music is very important for cows as it helps them relax and increase milk production. As the cows listen to music, their bodies and minds relax and they release milk freely.”

Though this practice is new in Kenya, it is common in Europe and has been proven to work.

Githui adds that while some farmers may give their cows the luxury of watching television, soft music is enough.

Mathenge, a Diploma in Animal Health holder, acknowledges that milk production has increased by between one to two litres since he introduced entertainment.

Initially, his cows produced 23-24 litres a day but they have since improved to more than 25 litres.

“The cows watch television when they are relaxing while they listen to music from TV or radio as they are milked. Pictures give them alternative entertainment and by the time we switch to audio during

MORE GADGETS TO THINK ABOUT

■ **Robotic milkers:** They are also referred to as automated milking systems (AMS). The system enables farmers to milk their cows without involving workers. AMS lets the cows milk themselves, and the system helps improve milk quality.

■ **Use of sensors:** They are attached to cows to collect data that gives the farmer information that helps him manage his herd effectively. The gadgets provide information on temperature, among others. Farmers can, therefore, identify health problems earlier.

■ **Automated calf feeders:** They reduce the labour and time needed to feed calves.

■ **Other technologies** involve individual cow testing at milking time, and nutrition systems.



THE OLD MAN DID NOT BELIEVE THAT HIS GRANDCHILDREN SHOULD DRINK MILK BOUGHT FROM SHOPS OR ANY OTHER SOURCE”

Peter Mathenge

milking time, the cows are more relaxed than if they had listened to music only.”

Most of the milk is sold to employees of supermarkets in Nakuru mainly Tusksys and Naivas. However, plans are underway to buy a milk dispenser so that the produce can be sold to clients within the supermarkets, according to Mathenge.

The firm grows its own fodder that includes yellow maize and napier grass at their farm in Rongai sub-county. They harvest and preserve the fodder in a bunker at a plot close to Section 58. They mix the silage with dairy meal, cotton seed cake and canola before feeding the mixture to the cows.

“The spaces the cows occupy are enough for exercising to keep them active,” says Mathenge.

No new cows have been bought at the farm. They have been improving what was inherited from Kamau by serv-

ing them with Friesian semen. All the animals are generations of the three cows, which have since died.

“It is possible for people with small pieces of land to farm in towns if only they involve animal experts, who will help in maintenance of hygiene and waste disposal.”

Farmers, advises Mathenge, too should pay their staff well – not less than Sh15,000 a month.

The cows' waste is turned into biogas, which is used at the farm by the owners and workers.

Over the years, the farm has attracted farmers from different parts of the country, including Meru and Mukurweini in Nyeri, to learn how to zero-graze on a small piece of land.

Each farmer, according to Mathenge, is charged Sh500, which includes lunch. Farmers are trained on utilising small pieces of land, feeding their cows and keeping them relaxed through entertainment.

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BREEDING» FARMER MUST KNOW THE BULL USED FOR SIRING TO AVOID INBREEDING, WHICH LEADS TO LOW QUALITY ANIMALS

Keep every detail of your cows to maximise earnings

Njugunah has been a dairy farmer for over 30 years, and for all this time, he has kept track of each of his animals

BY NJOKI CHEGE
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@njokichege

The long-winded road stretches to Karura ka Nyaga in Ndenderu, Kikuyu, on the outskirts of Nairobi.

Seeds of Gold team is here to meet Lawrence Njugunah, who runs one of the biggest dairy farms in the area.

We find the farmer busy harvesting napier grass for his cows. Dressed in a blue overcoat and gumboots, he leads us to his cow pens, where his big-bodied American breed Holstein cows are feeding.

Njugunah owns 37 animals, 20 are lactating, three are heifers, four in-calf heifers and the rest are calves.

The farmer says the desire to have high-yields made him keep the Holstein breed.

"I breed the cows myself to ensure I have the best. I check for their backbone, which should be straight, for best breed. I also ensure that the cow has a high hip and a lower pin," he says.

"If the hips are lower than the pins, then that is a defect. The rib cage should be wide enough and the udder must be well-attached, with the tits short, medium-sized and close to each other."

Njugunah is an ardent keeper of his animals' records, what has made him run a successful farm. He records every single milestone of the cows on cards

37

The number of animals the farmer keeps in his farm, including calves.

that allow him to keep track of his brood.

This starts with every cow having a yellow ear tag with a code number. The cards indicate the cow's name, the bull used for siring and the date the animal was born. It also shows the code numbers of the bull, the dame (mother) and the breed of each parent.

"The card also contains information regarding the calving intervals. I am also able to tell when each of the cows was born and how they are faring on."

Njugunah insists that farmers ought to take record keeping seriously.

"If you do not keep records, you are likely to inbreed. The record cards also have treatment dates for ailments such as foot and mouth disease, which can wipe out an entire brood," says Njugunah, who has records of his cows since he started.

"Records help me in knowing the high yielders. There are certain animals I want to follow from time to time and there are animals from a 'good family' with high-yield that I would not want to sell by mistake."

The farmer sells his milk to Kiambaa Dairy Co-operative as well as from his home, where residents come to buy.

He further supplies it to traders at Ndenderu shopping centre as well as to local secondary schools.

He has extended the records to milk production. The record cards show how much milk each cow produced in the morning and in the evening, as well as the litres sold to the co-operative, at home and to traders and schools.

"From the cards, I can tell a cow is sick if it produces less milk and I am able to know what I can do about it to increase milk production. Cows on heat gener-



Lawrence Njugunah in his farm in Ndenderu, Kiambu. Below: The farmer peruses records of his animals. JENNIFER MUIRURI | NATION

MANAGEMENT

THE MUST HAVE DOCUMENTS

- **Reproduction records:** They show identity of female animal, the age, calving date, type of birth, sex, sire, dam and progeny identification, heat dates and age at first service
- **Production records:** Indicate amount of milk produced at every milking time.
- **Growth or weight records**
- **Health records:** Date of clinical episodes, signs and symptoms, nature of interventions, dosage, vaccinations and mortality.
- **Feeding records:** Especially if farmers are using commercial feeds.
- **Financial records:** Show expenses of feed, health, incomes from products sales and profits realised.



ally produce less milk."

On the day *Seeds of Gold* team visited him, Njugunah had milked 116 litres early morning from some of his cows. From the records, we could see he had sold 36 litres at the gate and 79.9 litres to the co-operative society.

He sells a litre of milk to the co-operative at Sh36 and Sh50 per litre to the locals.

"From the morning sales, I normally earn Sh4,600 and about the same or more in the evening."

Njugunah gives the cows commercial feeds and napier grass.

"I grow my own fodder, harvest and store in an underground silo for use during the dry season."

He complements the silage with maize germ, wheat bran and pollard. To complete the meal, he offers the cows fresh water and yeast from a local brewery, which he says is rich in protein as dairy cows require protein for milk production and growth.

But it has not been an easy ride for the farmer. His journey began over 30 years ago, when he was a young primary school teacher.

He started dairy farming in 1982 with a capital of Sh2,000 that he used to

buy two cows. Each cow would produce about six litres of milk, which he would sell to neighbours and colleagues.

"I sold a bottle between 50 cents and Sh1 and would get Sh60 in a day," he recalls.

The farmer graduated from selling milk in bottles to using a van as his brood increased.

"My home resembled a Maasai manyatta because I had so many cows. My herd grew to about 60 animals. In those days, cows were cheap."

Soon, however, the Kenya Dairy Board and the police were on his case since it was illegal to sell unlicensed milk. Njugunah, who was then selling milk in Pangani and along Juja Road, Nairobi, resorted to hawk from home to home.

His big break came in 1987 when he landed a contract to supply 100 litres of milk to the United Nations headquarters in Gigiri. The contract would last the next 18 years. It did not only boost Njugunah's income, but also sent him to early retirement in 1994, making dairy farming his main project.

His main challenge is low milk prices. "If the cooperative would buy milk at more than Sh40, then we would be making good profit." Getting labour also poses a major hurdle.

"Our day begins at 3:45am and ends at 5pm. We then work from Monday to Monday."

County briefs

Trans Nzoia

FARMERS ASKED TO PLANT TREES FOR SUSTAINABLE FARMING

Farmers have been urged to plant trees alongside crops and rearing livestock. Vi Agroforestry, a Swedish NGO, country manager Fred Marani said that planting trees and crops make farming sustainable. "Farmers do not need to plant many trees. As they grow maize on their farms, they can grow two or three trees on the sides. The trees will help protect the environment and give the farmer more earnings," said Marani, who was speaking in Trans Nzoia. The organisation has trained more than 5,000 farmers in Trans Nzoia on environment friendly practices.

- Philip Bwayo

Bungoma

MAJOR BOOST FOR LIVESTOCK AND CROPS SECTOR

Crops and livestock farmers in Bungoma have received a boost from the county government. The farmers were recently offered 45 greenhouses estimated at Sh19.9 million. "The greenhouses are aimed at enhancing production of horticultural crops," said Governor Kenneth Lusaka. Already, Sh105 million has been spent on fertiliser this season to boost food security, in particular maize production. Livestock farmers, on the other hand, will benefit from Sh56 million for the purchase of dairy cows, goats and poultry breeding stock.

- Ouma Wanzala

Eldoret

UNIVERSITY OFFERED SH10M GRANT TO PROMOTE FISH FARMING

University of Eldoret has received Sh10 million grant from Uasin Gishu County Government to support fish farming. According to Dr Philip Raburu, the Head of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Department at the university, the money will be used to build a hatchery and foster food security. Apart from ponds, Uasin Gishu County has over 100 dams. "We have started with cage fish culture in several of them with excellent results. With a modern hatchery, the region will achieve a milestone in aquafarming," said Dr Raburu.

- Arthur Situma

MAKING HONEY» BEES MUST HAVE EASY ACCESS TO FLOWERS FOR NECTAR AND WATER TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY

My bees protect this beautiful forest

Maritim is among a group of farmers using agriculture to conserve Londiani forest

BY ANDREW MIBEI

satnation@ke.nationmedia.com

The healthy maize plants in the farms allocated to residents of Kiplokyi, Kericho inside Londiani Forest are at the flowering and seeding stage.

Thus, there is the unmistakable buzz of hundreds of bees collecting nectar. In Francis Maritim's farm, the buzz increases as one approaches a space full of flowers and bee-hives.

"I have over 200 hives in this space of over quarter an acre," Maritim tells *Seeds of Gold*.

He is a member of the Ogiek community, who in the olden days were forest dwellers and relied on bush meat and honey for survival. The farmer says he has interacted with bees for all

his 48 years. However, it is only three years ago that with other members of his community, they formed a group known as Community Forest Association (CFA), which enabled him to set up the apiary in the forest.

"We picked bee keeping because the members felt comfortable with the activity."

Kenya Forest Service allocated them the space in the forest to grow crops and keep bees as part of an initiative to conserve the natural habitat.

However, according to him, some members of the community were not keen on the project while others expected the government to offer them everything, including setting up the hives.

After attending a workshop on bee keeping in Molo, Maritim learnt that a good beehive should be kept dry and warm.

Traditionally, the Ogieks used barks of trees to keep the hives warm. However, Maritim went for used carton boxes, which he wrapped round the hives.

On top of the carton, he wrapped a polythene sheet before covering the top with iron sheet to keep the hive dry and durable.

600

The amount of money the farmer sells a kilo of honey he harvests from his forest apiary.

He has also fitted a small hinged door to all his modified hives thus making access to the honey easy.

Each hive gives him 16kg of honey every season that sells at Sh600 per kilo.

"The hives look like the traditional ones but I do not need to dismantle them every time I harvest. The big door makes it possible for me to simply pick the honey combs, ensuring that the bees do not migrate," Maritim tells *Seeds of Gold*.

The initial harvest in 2012 and last year saw Maritim about Sh700,000 from the honey that he sold to Baraka Farm in Molo, an agricultural training institute. This year he expects more.

"I intend to have 1,000 hives



Joseph Maritim and his workers in his forest farm in Londiani, Kericho.
ANDREW MIBEI | NATION

by the end of this year."

Maritim has planted different flowers close to his hives but the most common one is the Ladies' Eardrop (*Fuschia*), which attracts bees throughout the year. He bought them at a cost of Sh50,000.

He has also dug shallow water pans and placed floating pieces of wood to enable the bees get water easily.

During *Seeds of Gold's* visit, Maritim had close to 20 work-

ers planting eucalyptus trees, which have flowers that are popular with bees.

The chairman of Makutano Forest Community Association in Londiani, Johana Langat, says that establishment of CFAs is aimed at involving the community in forest conservation. He says members establish tree nurseries, plant crops and graze in the forest.

"When people see direct benefits from the forest, they have



THE HIVES LOOK LIKE THE TRADITIONAL ONES BUT I DO NOT NEED TO DISMANTLE THEM EVERY TIME I HARVEST" Maritim

reason to conserve it," Langat says. Residents pay Sh350 for every half acre of forest land annually.



JOMO KENYATTA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

CASSAVA PLANT; The Answer to Food Scarcity

“They need to uproot the sick plant and burn it to avoid virus spread by whiteflies.”



JKUAT's professor Elijah Ateka (Left) and researcher Samuel Mwaura (Right) showing a healthy cassava at one of the variety's green houses.

In the face of food scarcity, a varsity has embarked on an aggressive campaign that involves scientific research to make cassava the solution to food insecurity.

With a marshal of studies of food secure countries such as Nigeria that have upheld the use of the aforementioned crop, Professor Elijah Ateka said that farmers only need to be assisted in accessing 'clean' cuttings for planting.

Prof. Ateka is the chairman of the Department of Horticulture at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture Technology (JKUAT) and Team Leader of the Cassava Viruses Research Project.

Clean cassava cuttings are free of diseases such as the dreaded viral diseases such as the Cassava Brown Streak and Cassava Mosaic.

These diseases which were detected in most production areas in Kenya- Western, Eastern and Coastal regions - where cassava is planted reduce the harvest by up to 70 percent or more.

The loss is due to the interference of the plant's photosynthetic process.

The aforementioned diseases affect the leaves. For the infected plants the roots turn brown making them inedible and unmarketable.

Photosynthesis - the plants' food making process that is totally dependent on sunlight- is prohibited because the leaves which trap light are destroyed.

JKUAT's project has been testing stem cuttings and training farmers on the proper planting methods that ensure that the diseases are not spread.

While there is literature that the mode of transmission of the diseases have been insects, a research that was conducted in the university in 2007 indicated that use of untested cuttings is the most dominant mode of disease transmission.

"It is difficult for farmers to just look at a seed and know that it is infected, but at the lab we are able to test the seeds at DNA and RNA level", he said.

Samuel Mwaura, a researcher in the project told *Seeds of Gold* that farmers also need to be sensitized on how to identify and handle an infected plant.



Infected cassava leaves and roots

"They need to uproot the sick plant and burn it" to avoid virus spread by whiteflies.

Currently, the university has demonstration blocks in Busia, Kehancha in Kuria and Busia where farmers were expected to see the quantitative difference in the use of clean seeds that were tested in JKUAT labs and those that they had been using initially.

He says that cassava has been an underrated crop yet it could salvage the country's hunger situation and lift the lives of farmers.

"It is a rich source of starch, for food and an ingredient in many manufactured products from bread to pharmaceuticals", said Prof Ateka.

The professor told *Seeds of Gold* that manufacturers that use corn for manufacturing starch do not have to use maize where it is considered a staple food as cassava is a cheaper alternative.

The stagnated cassava farming sector in Kenya is a paradoxical situation: "Farmers are not participating in planting the crop because there is no ready market and no investor wants to put his money in starch making by the use of cassava because they are not sure whether they will have a continuous supply of the crop", the professor said.

While the institution has been able to test and multiply a few seeds that have been given to farmers who have participated in the demonstration blocks, the professor says that JKUAT does not have the capacity to produce enough seeds for all farmers interested in cultivating the crop.

He would like to see entrepreneurs that can multiply clean seeds provided that the seeds will be tested and certified by institutions that have the mandate and capacity to test the plant.

To spur increased production and profitability of the crop to farmers, the professor would like the country to have a policy such as Nigeria where bread and other baked products must contain a certain minimal percentage of cassava as an ingredient.



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listing

GREEN MARKET : Where buyers and producers meet

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FLOWER SEEDS: I need Annual Flower seeds for my nursery.
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Contact: 0723836684/072376411, wamuyuwach@yahoo.com

GRAFTED PASSION SEEDLINGS: Tree tomato, avocado, guava, other fruit trees, also available
Quantity: As per demand
Price: Negotiable
Location: Eldoret
Contact: 0722619543/0789725495/0720807776

OYSTER MUSHROOMS: As per demand
Price: Sh150 per 250g and dried oyster mushroom at Sh450 per 250g.
Location: Langas, Eldoret. Free delivery.

SELLER:
CHICKEN

I am in Rongai, Nairobi. I am selling Kari Improved Kienyeji one-day old chicks vaccinated against Mareks disease. I can be reached on 0716259330 and 0716259223, sales@everythingpoultry.biz
Price: Negotiable



Contact: Victor 0719769340

MORINGA CERTIFIED POWDER: As per demand
Price: Sh1,000 per kilo.
Location: Machakos town.
Contact: Simba, 0728673900
Email: simbawamitikenya@gmail.com

DRIP LINES: 20,000 metre per month
Price: Sh6 per metre with free installation
Location: Thika
Contact: Kinyua 0717118111

DRY CHILLIS and SEEDS: I am selling long kayeen dry chillis and African bird eye and seeds for planting.
Contact: Joseph, 0725660719, josephkinuthia61@gmail.com

KUROIILER CHICKS: As per demand
Price: Three days old at Sh150 and three weeks old at Sh220
Location: Nairobi
Contact: 0728343327, pantherfreshgrowers@gmail.com

ONIONS: Jambar F1 onions to be ready in three weeks time
Quantity: 3/4 of an acre
Price: Sh50 per kilo
Location: Kampi ya Moto, Nakuru
Contact: 0726 317540/0738 343784, faithjulliet@gmail.com

EUCALYPTUS GRANDIES: Six year old. Ideal for building, poles and fire wood
Quantity: 260
Price: Negotiable
Location: Kimende, Kiambu
Contact: 0720526635, mayaumusyoka@gmail.com

KIENYEJI CHICKEN: As per demand
Price: Sh350 per kilo.
Location: Mumias, Kakamega.
Contact: 0718636814, wanzabasi@yahoo.com

TOMATOES AND CABBAGES: As per demand
Price: Negotiable
Location: Embu County
Contact: 0728585933/0711738512 Erick and Cosmas, coskavinda@gmail.com

SEEDLINGS: Apple at Sh150 each, apple mango seedlings at Sh100, tree tomato (giant red) at Sh50 and banana Fhia 17 at Sh250
Location: Kabati/Embu.
Contact: 0724246585, simonmuiruril@gmail.com

SEEDLINGS: Pawpaw and Custard Apple
Quantity: As per demand
Price: Pawpaw seedlings at Sh30 and Custard Apple at Sh100 each
Location: Nairobi.
Contact: 0716795253, fruitseedlings@gmail.com

FRIESIAN HEIFERS: Four
Price: Sh90,000
Location: Mukurwe-ini, Nyeri
Contact: Muturi Gantangi, 0736058508, frankgatang@gmail.com

GREENHOUSE TOMATOES: I am selling greenhouse tomatoes in Nairobi and Embu. Prices are negotiable
Contact: Steve 0723485870, stevengachie@gmail.com

SELLER:
POTATOES

Shangi potatoes be ready end of this month in Molo, Kerinet.
Contact: 0733597696, curtismalely@gmail.com

STRAWBERRY SEEDLINGS: 60,000 pieces
Price: Sh8 each
Location: Karatina
Contact: 0712892164, mathengeanto@gmail.com

KARI KIENYEJI EGGS: Fertilised eggs for hatching with 80 to 90 per cent hatchability
Price: Sh750 per tray
Location: Meru
Contact: Kamunde 0722-408431

CHICKEN and EGGS: As per demand
Price: Broilers from Sh390 to

Sh400. Eggs at Sh300 per tray
Location: Thika
Contact: 0702894648, jameskimaninjenga@gmail.com

GREENHOUSE
Starter farmer's wood-frame greenhouse plus simplified training on crop management
Price: Sh70,000
Location: Nakuru.
Contact: Steve 0733982203

GREENHOUSE: Greenhouse, drip irrigation accessories, dam liners, fish pond, aquariums and aquaponics
Location: Nanyuki
Contact: 0721544644/0700514633/0714133231, anekenterprice@yahoo.com

ARROW ROOTS
We supply arrow roots from Meru County
Quantity: As per demand
Price: Sh85 per kg.
Location: Nairobi
Contact: 0721942304
Email: chegematati@gmail.com

TILAPIA FISH: 2,00 11 months old
Price: Sh380 per kilo
Location: Ukwala, Siaya County
Contact: Anyango Patrick, 0725 559329, patrickanayngo@yahoo.com

KUROIILER CHICKS: As per demand
Price: A day old at Sh120
Location: Kitale
Contact: Zeinabu 0722942309/0721241592, zeinabulatama@yahoo.com

KARI KIENYEJI CHICKS: As per demand
Location: Kenyatta Road, Juja
Contact: Sam, 0726359602
Email: samtisyamuli@gmail.com

KUROIILER CHICKS: As per demand
Price: A day old at Sh120
Location: Delivery anywhere in Nyanza and Western
Contact: 0710948585, kitchenchicken@mail.com

GRAVILLEA TREES: 47 mature, over 20 years
Price: Negotiable
Location: Thuura-Meru County
Contact: Dorothy 0736435892, lindakaaria@gmail.com

KUROIILER: Three months, fully vaccinated
Price: Sh500
Location: Thika town
Contact: Wairimu, 0721851567, gracenimo@gmail.com

KARI KIENYEJI EGGS: We sell fertilised eggs

SELLER: RABBITS

I am selling 20 rabbits (four months old). Call 0727681806 or email agribizrabbit@gmail.com



Quantity: As per demand.
Price: Sh800 per tray of 30 eggs
Location: Nairobi.
Contact: Patrick 0721440694, pkpkaranja114@gmail.com

KIENYEJI CHICKS AND EGGS: As per demand.
Price: Hatching Kari at Sh1,000, Kuroiler at Sh1,200 and one-day chick at Sh120.
Location: Nairobi.
Contact: Catherine, 0722719440, namuragz@gmail.com

JELLY AND CHICKEN: 420kg per week (milking jelly) and cocks as per demand.
Price: Sh500 per kilo milking jelly and Sh1,200 per cock
Location: Kikuyu town
Contact: Gladwell, 0731976787, debrakiwara@gmail.com

BEETROOT: 100kg
Price: Negotiable
Location: Nairobi
Contact: Bernard 0722779111, abc2000@nbi.ispkenya.com

KUROIILER HENS and COCKRELS: 80 hens and 40 cockrels
Price: Sh900 each
Location: Kisumu
Contact: 0720332663
Email: aodindo2007@yahoo.com

VIOLETS FLOWERS: 150
Price: Negotiable
Location: Nakuru town
Contact: 0728493863

GREENHOUSE CONSTRUCTION: 8mx15m
Price: Sh180,000
Contact: 0716089425

CHICKEN AND PIGS: Seven months old layers and seven months old pigs
Quantity: 100 (hen) and pigs (10)
Price: Sh500 (chicken) and Sh21,000 (pigs)
Location: Nyeri
Contact: Cyrus, 0722519547,

cymaxgach@gmail.com

PASSION FRUIT SEEDLINGS: Purple, as per demand
Price: Sh20 per each
Location: Kericho
Contact: 0728698433, oliverolliemutai@gmail.com

KIENYEJI CHICKEN: As per demand
Price: Sh700 to Sh1,000
Location: Kitui County
Contact: 0727762093, 0722 563672, augustinekitute@gmail.com

SEEDLINGS: Chandler strawberry
Price: Sh10 per seedling
Location: Karatina, Nyeri
Contact: 0732798771, mainarobert94@yahoo.com

STRAWBERRY: 50kg of strawberry fruits available for sale per week.
Price: Negotiable
Location: Limuru
Contact: 0727843337, jgachiengo@gmail.com

KARI KIENYEJI CHICKS: We sell Kari Kienyeji fertilised chicks as per demand
Price: A day old at Sh120 and a week at Sh200
Location: Gikambura, Kikuyu
Contact: 0721624005

ITALIAN CYPRESS SEEDLINGS: 200 plants left
Price: Sh600 each
Location: Kiserian
Contact: 0721797133

CHANDLER STRAWBERRY SPLITS: As per demand
Price: Sh10 each
Location: Nakuru
Contact: Jackson, 0723798727

SELLER:
GROUND NUTS

Available as per demand.
Price: Negotiable. **Contact:** Peter 0723 900051
Email: hoteliya@gmail.com: Mamboleo, Kisumu.



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PROTECTION» COLOURING POND WATER WITH COW DUNG HELPS TO PROTECT FISH FROM PREDATORS LIKE BIRDS

Fishermen find sweet deal in fish ponds

Group switches to rearing fish in ponds as stocks in Lake Victoria dwindle

BY ANGELA OKETCH

@angicoketch

satnation@ke.nationmedia.com

The cool breeze from Lake Victoria hums incessantly as the water rises up and down making beautiful waves.

For a visitor, one may want to stay on the shores of the lake to enjoy the breeze and watch the water form the lovely patterns.

But for members of Sangorota BMU Fishermen Group in Kisumu, this is something they are used to as they have a fish farm on the shore.

The group rears tilapia in six ponds. It is a great transformation for the members, who initially were fishermen.

They would venture each day into the lake, cast their

nets and catch fish for their daily bread.

"We switched to ponds in February because of dwindling fish stock in Lake Victoria," says Francis Orawo, 35, the group's chairman.

Most residents in Nyanza believe that good fish comes from the lake, a reason why people do not have ponds.

A survey done in June in Kisumu County by Sustainable Environmental Development Watch (SUSWATCH), an NGO, blames low adoption of aquaculture to the perception that only the lake has good fish.

This is the myth Sangorota BMU members are steadily dispelling as they keep fish in ponds and create jobs.

"We rear fish which we sell to fish mongers at between Sh200 and Sh300 depending on the size. We have so far harvested 1,000 fish from two ponds that we started with," says Orawo, whose group has 12 members.

Orawo says the group rears mono-sex fingerlings for better harvest.

"If you rear both male and female tilapia, they will over-populate in the ponds and you will end up with low quality fish.

Mono-sex fish mature faster, sometimes at six months, instead of eight."

Before they switched from the lake, the group did research and found out that they would have no strong competition if they adopt ponds, besides having regular supply of fish.

They wrote a proposal to Lake Victoria Environmental Management Programme (LVEMP II) and luckily they got a grant of Sh1.7 million for the project.

Protect fish

"We raised Sh390,000 from our group savings and loan, in addition to the grant, which we used to construct the first two fish ponds with the help of an expert and added four others. We put cow dung in the ponds to colour the water and bought nets to protect the fish from predators," says Orawo.

They started with 2,000 fingerlings which they bought at Sh10,000 from a hatchery in the area. Each fish pond is 20 by 10 feet and accommodates 1,000 fingerlings. They are constructed on land offered by members.

"We had our first harvest this August. We only got 1,000 fish.

IF YOU REAR BOTH MALE AND FEMALE TILAPIA, THEY WILL OVERPOPULATE IN PONDS"

Francis Orawo

2,000

The number of fingerlings the group started with in two fish ponds, putting 1,000 in each.

Although the harvest was poor considering that they were two ponds, it gave us the reason to continue."

Orawo explains that the harvest was low because some of the fish did not mature properly.

"Some of them were too small because of improper feeding. We have since learned



Sangorota BMU Group chairman Francis Orawo at their fish farm in Kisumu with farmers.

JACOB OWITI | NATION

from experts what to give them for better growth." Anne Anyango, 27, a member of the group says to produce fast growing tilapia, a proper diet is necessary.

"We feed our fish on *dagaa* remains and commercial feeds." It has been a long journey for members of the group. They would spend the night there only to come out in the morning with little fish.

"We used to go fishing in five

boats but we would often get about 100 fish that could not meet our customers' demand. It was tiring. Now we are assured we will get what to sell," says Orawo.

The group is currently working on buying a cooling plant to store fish for constant supply to the market.

"When we start harvesting from all our six ponds, we would need the plant because fish is perishable."



AGRIBUSINESS TRADE FAIR 2014



Prof. Miriam Kinyua showing the new wheat varieties **ELDO Mavuno** and **ELDO Baraka** that have been approved by KEPHIS.

Highlights:

1. Farm inputs suppliers e.g. Seed, Fertilizers, AgroChemicals.
2. Fish Farming
3. Crop Demonstration Plots.
4. Grain Handling and Processing.
5. Farm Machinery and Equipment Suppliers.
6. Livestock Exhibition, Dairy Equipment Suppliers.
7. Service Providers; Banks, Insurance, Colleges and Universities.
8. Animal Auction and sale.
9. Opportunities at the County Governments.
10. Raffle tickets-several prizes to be won including a Heifer
11. 10 Kilometre road race on 25th Sept. 2014. -Registration is on-going; winners will be awarded several prizes

Theme: Towards Vision 2030 in Food Security and Poverty Eradication through Innovation and Technology Transfer".

Venue: University of Eldoret (Chepkoilel)

Date: 25th to 27th September, 2014

Stem rust disease in wheat has been causing massive crop loss to farmers in the world. Farmers are forced to incur huge costs in fighting the disease creating more losses in terms of output. University of Eldoret has however developed a new wheat variety which is resistant to the disease and performs better compared to the old crop. Prof. Kinyua used the mutation technology to come up with new rust resistant wheat varieties named **ELDO Mavuno** and **ELDO Baraka**.

This is set to positively change the farmers livelihoods and contribute towards food security not only in the region but also countrywide.

In addition to this, the University will also showcase other crop varieties and animal breeds that have been developed using various technologies. The farm produces heifers through embryo transfer and sexed semen. A faster way of improving dairy cattle and milk production. We will demonstrate during the trade fair.

Contact Address: University of Eldoret Agribusiness Trade Fair 2014 P. O. Box 1125 - 30100 Eldoret - Kenya Tel. No. +254 772 127 365 E-mail:uoetradeair@gmail.com and vc@ueld.ac.ke

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cereal

REMEDY» WHILE USING FOLIAR FUNGICIDES, A FARMER MUST APPLY THEM AS SOON AS THE DISEASE IS OBSERVED

Four ways to keep stem rust off your wheat

Crop rotation and growing resistant varieties helps a great deal in curbing the deadly disease

BY EGERTON TEAM

Stem rust, also known as black rust, is a fungal disease that affects mainly wheat.

The disease occurs in warm and moist environments, which is typical of all the wheat growing areas and can be spread by the wind. It attacks many parts of the plant, but particularly the stem.

Attacked crops have reddish-brown spores known as urediospores, which appear similar to an iron rod that has rust. The crop's epidermis is ruptured and rough. As the plant approaches maturity, the spores turn dark brown to black hence the name black rust.

Infected plants produce few tillers and harvested grains are smaller and shrivelled, leading to low quality yield. If not controlled, the disease can cause up to 100 per cent loss.

Stem rust has been evolving to new races that affect even resistant varieties. The latest race of stem rust, popularly known as Ug99 was reported in 1999 in Uganda. The Ug99 was confirmed in Kenya and Ethiopia in 2005, and has affected farmers since then.

Control strategies

Foliar fungicides can be used as a short-term control strategy. This can be achieved with standard application of fungicides provided the infec-

tion is not severe.

Registered fungicides include Nativio 300 SC, Prosaro 250 EC, Folicur 250 WP, Silvacur 375 EC, Orius 25 EW, AmistarXtra 260 SC, Acanto Plus, Abacus SE, Tebucure 250 EW, Twiga Epox and Fezan 250 EW.

They are also recommended for the control of yellow and leaf rusts, which also affect wheat. In general, foliar fungicides are most effective when they are applied as soon as the disease is observed.

Farmers, however, should consider applying the fungicides as a preventive measure to achieve better results. Two sprays are recommended, at 60 days and 75 to 80 days after planting.

Thereafter, farmers are advised to start 'scouting' for the disease on the stems on a weekly basis. A third spray will be necessary if the disease is observed on the wheat crop. But spraying comes with environmental concerns. Growing genetically resistant varieties, thus, remains the best and environment-friendly strategy for farmers.

To keep up with the ever changing stem rust pathogen, researchers at the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation conduct regular surveys in farmers' fields across the country to determine the distribution of the disease and analyse the presence of any new races.

Rotating cereal with non-

cereal crops is also a good strategy for reducing inoculum for the next crop. Additionally, during crop rotation, farmers should destroy any volunteer wheat crop around farms that

may host the rust spores and infect the next crop

New disease-resistant wheat varieties include Eagle 10, Korongo and Kingbird. They help in developing defences

against the rust disease as well as achieving high yields.

They further reduce the cost of production and at the same time, enhance wheat production.

Musyoka Duncan Mbai,
Department of Animal Sciences,
Egerton University.
dunmusyoka@gmail.com

Farmers to benefit from KWFT dairy farming loan

As the leading Microfinance bank in the country, Kenya Women Microfinance Bank (KWFT) appreciates agribusiness as a key driver in helping address poverty reduction and has launched various loan programmes that are aimed at empowering farmers to optimize production.

With the ever expanding demand for dairy products both locally and regionally, dairy farming is poised to play an even greater role in Kenya's economic growth. Already, the local dairy sector contributes around seven percent of the country's overall Gross Domestic Product and directly supports over 1.5 million small-scale farmers.

Producer milk prices have been on a steady rise in recent years as the sector attracts more investments which has helped make the dairy sector a profitable venture for those already in it and an attractive prospect for thousands more who are eager to join in.

About the KWFT Dairy Farming Loan

The KWFT Agricultural Loan programme includes the KWFT Dairy Farming Loan which is designed to help farmers upgrade their dairy cattle into High Breed stock for maximum productivity and at minimal risk.

The bulk of the 1.5 million small-scale dairy farmers still keep traditional dairy cow breeds that owing to their genetic composition are incapable of producing high milk yields when compared to the exotic, or the better know grade cattle.

For farmers keen to succeed in dairy farming, the whole dairy farming programme will amount to little unless they can aim for best practices in animal husbandry which begins with upgrading to the right quality livestock breed.

Both practicing and prospective dairy farmers will find the KWFT Dairy Farming Loan a very useful product as through it they can obtain financing to purchase these high quality dairy cows which guarantee improved milk production and better herd performance.

Cow Insurance

Furthermore, the KWFT Dairy Farming Loan also comes with an insurance cover for these high breed cows in the event of theft or death.

Farmers whose animals unfortunately die as a result of accidents, illnesses and diseases like Foot & Mouth disease, while calving or maybe upon recommendation by a qualified vet to have it slaughtered will receive 100% compensation of the insured amount under the cover.

With the government moving to encourage young people to embrace agribusiness as a sustainable and profitable occupation, dairy farming is among the ventures with positive prospects and which has been made even better through the efforts of a reliable partner as KWFT through the KWFT Dairy Farming Loan.

Farmers can also take advantage of the KWFT Agriculture Loan portfolio to obtain financing for the purchase of water tanks, biogas establishment or general agribusiness assets (eg milking machines, chaff cutters etc).

Benefits of the Dairy Loan Campaign

Key features of the KWFT Dairy Farming Loan include localized sourcing of the cow/herd, valuation of the cow by certified vets and payment to suppliers and an insurance cover for the cow purchased.

Applicants can rest easy with the assurance of the many benefits to be accrued from investing in the dairy sector via the KWFT Dairy Farming Loan which include improved milk production for greater earnings, fast loan processing, flexible repayment period and insurance for the cow

How to apply

To apply for the KWFT Dairy Farming Loan, please visit any of the 234 KWFT offices or branches across the country or simply call our 24 hour hotline **0703-067-700**.

You can also contact them via their Email: customerservice@kwftdm.com or visit our website www.kwftdm.com for more information.

2

The number of sprays recommended for wheat, at 65 days and 75 to 80 days after planting.



Workers spray wheat in Moiben, Uasin Gishu County.
FILE | NATION

LITERARY DISCOURSE | To create harmony, the country's education curriculum must be adjusted

Peace Corps model will not unify Kenyans

The NCIC should devise a better strategy for promoting cross-cultural literacy among Kenyans

BY OKOTH OKOMBO
jsigei@ke.nationmedia.com

Reports in the local press indicate that The National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) is a key stakeholder in a government project designed to hire graduate teachers in an arrangement that closely mirrors the American Peace-Corps programme.

Like the American Peace Corps, the hired graduates will be treated as volunteers: earning less than the corresponding graduate teacher's salary, not necessarily required to be professional teachers, expected to promote peace in the host communities, and required to live in the villages with willing families.

The project may make some sense as an extension of the Kazi Kwa Vijana idea. Considering our levels of graduate unemployment, practically anything that keeps a young graduate busy with some measure of gainful engagement has a ring of self-justification about it. Our labour economists and job-creation experts will tell us the merits and demerits of such a novelty in the realm of creating opportunities for graduate employment.

My interest in the project has to do with its other role as an exercise in promoting cross-cultural literacy among Kenyans.

In a nutshell, cross-cultural literacy is an individual's level of awareness of other cultures and the resultant readiness to live harmoniously with others in a culturally heterogeneous society, such as Kenya.

Since employment creation is not the core business of NCIC, one must assume that it is this role (of enhancing cross-cultural literacy) that forms the bedrock of NCIC's agenda in this project.

The basis of NCIC's concern is understandable. By the look of things, its mandate of reconceptualising the social fabric of the Kenyan society is still far from accomplished. As a geo-political entity, the Kenyan state has managed to survive reasonably well in a neighbourhood characterised by the kind of turmoil witnessed in Somalia, DR Congo, and Idi Amin's Uganda, not to mention the experiences of Rwanda and other places. Although often listed among the failed states of



A Maasai cultural boma at Ongururui, Amboseli. The volunteer programme will require graduates to visit and stay with Kenyan families to offer education and promote peace.

the world (information that is only a click away for Internet surfers), Kenya has performed relatively well on matters of statehood, at least within the African family of nations (more correctly, countries).

The pain in NCIC's neck, which is also the speck in its institutional eye, is Kenya's performance as the kind of ethno-spiritual entity that we call a nation. As we all know, Kenya's statehood is a relic of the British colonial enterprise in this part of the world.

As a geo-political entity, a state is mainly concerned with the security of its borders and the efficiency of its internal administrative arrangements. A nation, on the other hand, is dominantly a spiritual entity, bound by a strong sense of shared history, purpose, and destiny among its citizens — expressed through a common language, a sense of identity, and other ethno-spiritual attributes such as religion and cultural beliefs.

When the physical realities of statehood are put together with the spiritual realities of nationhood, we have what is called a nation-state. This is the desired goal of independent Kenya. Indeed, a desirable but very ambitious goal. Our common history is shallow, founded only on the shared colonial experience. The common (indigenous) language (Kiswahili, our national language) is a constitutional artifact, en-

shrined in the Constitution of Kenya 2010, which also makes it an official language alongside English, a language left to us by our former colonial masters. On matters such as religion, culture, and other ethno-spiritual phenomena, Kenyan nationhood is more of a desire than a reality.

However, Kenya's nationhood issues are not unique. Few countries in the world today are ethnically and culturally homogeneous. The most powerful nation today, the US, is far from being ethnically homogeneous. It has its Blacks, Hispanics, and Caucasians, to mention only the most widely acknowledged categories. The question is how such countries manage to create a semblance of a national spirit in spite of the ethnic differences within their borders.

“

On matters such as religion, culture, and other ethno-spiritual phenomena, Kenyan nationhood is more of a desire than a reality”

The overall answer lies in striving towards unity in diversity: creating a culture of tolerance and acceptance of differences. It involves moving from the mere reality of being different (plurality) to embracing the necessity, and developing the cultural competence, to live harmoniously with those that are different from us. As our own Prof Ali Mazrui has aptly characterised this concept, it involves moving from the 'Tower of Babel' to the 'Power of Babel'. The word 'power' is important here because there is strength in our differences when we bring them together to act in unison.

The challenge of fashioning a national spirit based, not on the uniformity of cultures, but on a shared spiritual commitment to accept and embrace our differences is the implied job description of NCIC. Clearly, this is a tall order considering the amount of ethnic bigotry that one sees on Kenya's social media platforms, not to mention the negative ethnic innuendos that inform and drive our political choices.

The magnitude of the problem is such that one cannot seriously address it by putting in place a Peace Corps-style programme that sends unemployed graduates to our villages to spread the message of peace as they coach weak students.

While the benefits to the weak learners may not be in doubt,

the usefulness of such people as peace ambassadors is highly questionable.

If NCIC is serious about the pursuit of its mandate, it must design, resource, and aggressively promote a national cross-cultural literacy programme, intended to raise levels of our awareness and appreciation of each other's culture as community contributions to the general pool of what we may call Kenyan culture, conceptualised as an amalgam of different community cultures with an overlay of emerging cultural traits based on our common experiences since independence (and to some extent over the colonial period).

Clearly, NCIC cannot work alone in the endeavour to achieve this goal. The Ministry of Education is a natural ally. There are necessary interventions in the domain of curriculum design and pedagogical practices. In essence, our curricula for schools must prepare our children to see Kenyan issues through our various cultural eyes and appreciate the validity of each eye. Teachers are the key participants in facilitating such innovative curriculum requirements in day-to-day learning activities.

Deliberate efforts must be made to make our children see the conceptual commonalities hidden by the sounds of our languages. Such commonalities are to be found in our names (e.g. Okoth = Wafula = Kiprop = Wambua, etc) and many other manifestations of culture-driven thoughts and practices.

Above all, NCIC must become the champion of the campaign for governance practices that make Kenyans see themselves as having an equal stake in project Kenya, ensuring that all Kenyan children can identify with our public institutions and the personalities that run them.

Acts of discrimination in governance and the provision of public services negate all efforts towards the cultivation of a national spirit. No amount of cultural training can create a spirit of harmony between the marginalised and those who enjoy a hegemonic monopoly of state power and the corresponding socio-economic resources.

Prof Okoth Okombo teaches at the University of Nairobi.

‘My only problem was the use of vulgar language’

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

bag as people liked to read.”

The political climate of the late 1970s, however, put paid to their plans and they lost the publishing house to auctioneers.

“It was a most difficult time in our lives as we had people working for us,” Hannelore says.

She, however, counts herself lucky for Maillu, who continued writing from the house, was a great father to their daughter, Kavuli.

“Most men feel that they would rather stay outside their homes with their friends, but David is different.

He prefers to stay in. He is committed to his family and for that I consider myself lucky,” she says.

She says she is fortunate, too, to have worked for the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), a non-profit organisation which helps Kenyans pursue higher education in Germany.

“At the DAAD's 40th anniversary recently, I met professors I had met years earlier as students. That gave me great joy,” she says.

Her other joy is her daughter, Kavuli, a name which in Kamba means little dove or pigeon. She is an interior architect. Kavuli, the most African

person in the Maillu family, according to the writer, is now home in Kenya and is thankful to Ms Victoria Mbolu, the sole nanny who has been with the family for almost 40 years. She raised Kavuli and taught her Kamba language, a tongue Hannelore has still not quite mastered.

For all her time in Kenya, she misses home but she has found solace in the small congregation of the German-speaking Lutheran Evangelical Church on the German embassy grounds on Riverside Drive, Westlands, that caters for Germans, Austrians and Swiss resident in Kenya.

She also hangs out with other white women married to Kenyans from time to time, one of whom recently gifted her with a Kindle to read e-books on.

Hannelore, a voracious book reader and her husband's biggest fan, doesn't own a mobile phone. However, she is happy with her Kindle gift and is trying to read her books on it.

“But it's all new to me,” she says.

A lady doesn't tell her age, but with the passage of time, the dashing girl who sought to bring German standards to the operations of Council of Churches Kenya, has considerably slowed down.

Their little flat in Limuru was safe and they had a small car. They occasionally went out in the evenings, attended interesting talks at the museum, watched films and dined out.

The camaraderie is apparent in their affectionate exchanges full of warmth and care.

The chic bride of 44 years ago still shines through in the lilac cardigan with a matching lilac batik skirt.

When her husband walks in in an embroidered shirt with a lilac detailing, it is rather obvious that the maverick met his match and that theirs may yet be the tale of married happily ever after.

REFLECTIONS OF A SCHOLAR | Thoughts of a man of letters

A great tale from Africa and how 'Nyarloka' makes it sing

Macgoye is in a distinguished group of authors who have enriched the literature of their adopted nations

BY AUSTIN BUKENYA
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Asked by a Ugandan-born American professor about the best Kenyan women writers worth studying at an American University, I confidently proposed Marjorie Oludhe-Macgoye as one.

"But she's white!" shot back the professor, with a clear hint of disappointment (or was it disdain?) in his voice. I was dumbfounded.

It had never occurred to me to think of my provocative "MOM" (Marjorie Oludhe Macgoye) as white, black or any colour! I always regard her as just a friend and comrade.

Secondly, whether subjected to racism in America or not, the professor was the last person I expected to respond to my proposal with such a blatantly racist comment.

If we, who best understand the evils of racism, can't think outside its obnoxious box, who is ever going to break the vicious circle?

Curiously, Macgoye had anticipated the chauvinism, as may be seen in her embracing of the "Nyarloka" (woman from the other side) identity, and in some of her verse in which she hints at being "unfashionable, which being white is".

Unique vivacity

Anyway, I think Macgoye is one of the best things to happen to Kenyan literature. And she is one in a distinguished community of illustrious authors who have infused unique vivacity into the literatures of their adopted nations.

Several names come to mind, like the Polish-born Joseph Conrad and the Americans, Henry James and T.S. Eliot in English literature, and Romanian-born Eugene Ionesco in French literature. And Alexander Pushkin, one of the best-known Russian writers, had Ethiopian ancestry!

Macgoye's electrifying revelations of Kenyan lives and realities, wars and all, have made her a household name among all her literate compatriots.

From the single short pieces, like the emblematic *A Freedom Song*, to her numerous novels, Macgoye presents Kenya, especially the Nairobi urbanites and her own Luo community, with such sympathy and authority that we cannot fail to see ourselves in her work.

But Macgoye's toughest challenge to me as a "textolo-



Novelist and poet Marjorie Oludhe Macgoye works on her typewriter at her home in Ngara, Nairobi, in this October 18, 2012, picture.

gist" — that is, a technologist concerned with the proper construction of texts — is her conviction that a literary piece should "sound right". This is expressed in her poem *Make It Sing*.

Many writers take this seriously. A 19th century English novelist observed, for example, that the writer of a literary piece has to hear and be satisfied with the sound of every syllable as it drops from his or her pen.

But making a text "sing" involves more than the sound. Meticulous and precise choice of language, what the French novelist Flaubert calls "the inevitable word", is part of it. So is the skill of creating and selecting images and symbols that fire the reader's perception and imagination.

Then, for the beat, the melody and the orchestration to burst into song, all the above has to be skilfully blended into a palpable pattern.

All this is, of course, not to minimise the importance of social relevance. Indeed, the clarity and aptness of Macgoye's socio-historical observation and presentation of Kenyan society are some of the strongest characteristics of her writing.

It is, however, rather tempting to imagine that we are creating good literature by simply enumerating our many social, political and economic problems. Such howling may be good pamphleteering but, alas, it's not literature.

Macgoye hits the target through her unique blend of a good ear, simple but elegant language, memorable images and symbols — like the childbirth in *Coming to Birth* and the HIV thread in *Chira* — her thorough weaving and texturing, and her passionate commitment to her society.

"MOM's" towering figure,

however, should not make us forget other "cross-over" literati who have rendered distinguished service to East African Literature. Names like Gerald Moore, David Cook and Margaret Macpherson spring to mind.

While most of these were academics rather than creative artists, their early and sensitive response to African oral and written literature, as well as their direct encouragement of budding African talent, was crucial in the flowering of African writing in the 1960-1970 decade, often referred to as its "golden age" in our times.

Nearly all of us who were embarking on our writing careers in those days would readily admit the contribution of some of these visionaries, who were in most cases our teachers or senior colleagues.

One of the people to whom Okot p'Bitek dedicated *Song of Lawino*, for example, was Moore, who had been his colleague at the Extramural Centre of Makerere University in Gulu. It's the same Moore who edited the epoch-making anthology, *Modern African Poetry*, with Ulli Beier.

Indeed, most of us had our first publications aired in anthologies edited by these devotees of African Literature,

like Robert Green and Cook.

Cook, who did a lot to popularise East African creativity through his Makerere Free Travelling Theatre and his long-running radio programme, *In Black and White*, also first featured several budding writers in anthologies like *Origin East Africa*, *Poems From East Africa* and *Short East African Plays* in English, co-edited with Miles Lee.

Nor should we ignore the work of critics such as Adrian Roscoe, Andy Gurr and Angus Calder, and the publishers who ventured into the then-dubious arena of bringing out work by African writers.

I once mentioned African Literature to an English friend at York in 1966 and his spontaneous response was, "Oh, I didn't know people do any writing in that part of the world."

Leap of faith

So, people like James Currey, who started the famous African Writers Series (AWS) with Chinua Achebe, were really making a daring leap of faith into largely uncharted waters.

In Kenya it took the courage of district commissioner-turned publisher John Nottingham to bring out *Song of Lawino*, previously rejected by several "respectable" publishers, and make the East African Publishing House the prime publisher of full-length works by most of us who were struggling to break into print.

As for Currey, I still owe him a manuscript we discussed over a lavish lunch he bought me in London in 1972!

Maybe I'll surprise him with a text one of these days.

Prof Bukunya is a renowned Ugandan literary scholar who fell in love with Kenya. abubwase@yahoo.com

Soyinka to present talk on Maathai at Storymoja Festival

BY CARLOS MUREITHI
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Storymoja Festival 2014 continues today and tomorrow when tens of its events are slated to take place at the Nairobi National Museum.

Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka is expected to present *The Parables of Wangari's Trees: Wangari Maathai Memorial Lecture* at 11am at the Dome today.

In addition, Somali poet and educator Sahro Ahmed Koshin and Kenyan writer Abigail Akello Arunga will launch their books *Sounds of Laughter* and *Akello*, respectively, at 11am at the Coconut Theatre. Readings and a discussion moderated by Rashida Namulondo, a Ugandan poet and social entrepreneur, will be featured here.

There will be another launch at 11am at the Careerpedia Tent, where Bermudian author Joanne Ball Burgess will release her children's book *Lizard and the Rock*.

Along with this will be readings, stories and conversation with the writer.

Afterwards, writer Shariffa Keshavjee and illustrator Harriet Matsaert will join Ms Burgess to chat about writing for children in Kenya.

The session will be hosted by Ciira Hirst of the CAN-DO! Company/Master Publishing.

Tomorrow's highlights include 'Kenya@50 Movers and Shakers,' a discussion forum in which Storymoja patron Auma Obama and Muthoni Likimani will talk about their memoirs with Tom Maliti, the chairman of Kwani Trust's board. It will start at 11am at the Kanga Tent.

Another event is Meet the Winners, which will bring together Doreen Baingana and Tony Mochama, recipients of the 2013 Morland Writing Fellowship, as well as Caine Prize winners Okwiri Oduor and Yvonne Owuor.

They will be in conversation with Maria Simiyu and German Andrea Bohnstedt at 1pm at the Dome.

There will also be a function titled Africa Literature



“

Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka is expected to present *The Parables of Wangari's Trees: Wangari Maathai Memorial Lecture* at 11am at the Dome today”

— Author

Rising at Louis Leakey Auditorium at the same time, in which historian and writer Ivor Agyeman-Duah from Ghana, South African writer Duduzile Mabaso, Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor, Garnette Oluoch Olunya and Wandia Njoya will share their views on literary works and their role in development of Africa.

This will be moderated by Nigerian author and advocate Chuma Nwokolo.

At 3pm, Ghanaian-born poet Kwame Dawes will celebrate the life of his uncle, the poet, author and diplomat, Prof Kofi Awoonor, who died in the Westgate Mall attack last year when he was in the country to perform at the Storymoja Hay Festival (what this event was then known as).

This year's edition of the Storymoja Festival — a platform to celebrate the best of African literature — started on Wednesday and ends tomorrow. Its theme is Imagine the World.



(From left) Zimbabwean writer Peter Godwin, Prof Kofi Awoonor of Ghana and compatriot Kwame Dawes. Prof Awoonor was killed during the Westgate terror attack in Nairobi last September.

Readers corner

Literary Discourse

Teach art and craft in primary schools

BY FRANKLIN MUKEMBU

The 8-4-4 system of education has undergone radical changes since the late 1990s. All the subjects being offered from primary to high school have been reviewed at some point. It was in the course of this review that art and craft was scrapped from the syllabus, together with music.

I have thought about this and found out that there was a need for art and craft being in primary schools, as it played a key role in preparing pupils before they joined secondary schools. Some pupils happen to have special skills, which could be discovered and nurtured during the early primary school years.

Students are gifted and talented in different ways. There are those who are good in art and craft skills. Such students could specialise early enough. For learners who go through school and cannot fit in white-collar jobs, introducing them to psycho motor skills places them at a better position in the job market.

A good education system is that which takes care of every individual student and produces an all-round student who will fit into the community.

The reason Western countries do well in various fields is because they identify talent in their youngsters and help nurture it.

This initiative gives no room for guess work of trying to discover what each and every student is good at.

Technical subjects are now the preserve of big schools, which are endowed with good infrastructure and equipment. Such are the schools that offer building and construction, aviation, power mechanics, electrical installations, and drawing and design. If these subjects were taught in primary school, every child would have an opportunity to identify their talent and specialise early.

Our institutions of higher learning produce engineers in various fields, yet we do not have our own who can be entrusted with the job of constructing a railway or even a road. This is because the short period they undertake these courses is never enough to master both the theoretical and practical aspects of their areas of specialisation. The ministry of Education and curriculum designers should consider reintroducing art and craft in primary schools.

The writer teaches Kiswahili and geography at Muniithu Day Secondary School in Meru County

Stop burning texts, uniform after exams

BY VERONICA ONJORO

Students will be sitting their final examinations between October and November. These are primary, secondary, college and university students. The end of these exams is usually marked with celebrations. However, some of the celebrations endanger the lives of students. The activities include camping, tours, visits and painting graffiti on school walls. Some fight at the end of the exams, while others break windows. But the worst is the burning of books and school uniforms.

The government and the ministry of Education should issue a guideline on how students should behave at the end of exams and what they should do with the books and uniforms they do not want. Burning books is a loss to parents and the economy. It is also an academic loss. Finishing exams does not signify the end of learning. We have heard university lecturers referring to secondary school textbooks while teaching. This means that the books are useful and can be donated to needy students or organisations. Let us stop students from burning books.

The writer is a student at Mount Kenya University

Blame the ‘digital’ teachers for death of oral literature

BY KENNEDY ECHESA
WALUBENGU

Many have mourned the untimely death of oral literature in our secondary schools. Some writers have eulogised the discipline as one of the most vibrant genres of literature to have existed. For every success or failure, there must be a person to either carry home the pride or take responsibility. In most cases, we only wish to associate with success. I have said it before and shall say it again. Oral literature is on its deathbed, and the so-called ‘digital’ teachers are to blame for this. The term ‘digital’ here refers to the young teachers who left university in the past 10 years.

First, we must all admit that the training teachers undergo is unfriendly to the development of oral literature. The curriculum is results-oriented. At the end of the study, a student will prove his or her academic worth by simply passing an examination. The question as to whether the learner is able to use the knowledge acquired to further the interests of oral literature is insignificant. Simply put, the end justifies the means. I used to sympathise with Prof Egara Kabaji, those chilly mornings when he would sing the Banyore funeral songs without assistance in a class of 200 students, yet half of them were from the Abanyore sub-tribe. Learners were not under any obligation to



We can no longer leave oral literature at the mercy of an individual teacher.

join the good professor because they knew that they would still pass examinations without knowing how to sing. Secondly, the teachers of English have a pre-ordained mind, which vilifies oral literature. To them, oral literature belongs to the old school. They have no time for numerous proverbs, riddles, dirges and work songs in their communities.

They have simply created their own culture and find it ridiculous to maintain and promote a culture that is repugnant to morality (in their opinion). They cannot imagine singing circumcision songs, which they presume to be vulgar. It is worse when the teacher of English is a staunch Christian.

Hope for poetry lies in the ICT age and a change of attitude by tutors

BY MICHAEL MWANGI
MACHARIA

I am concerned about the views expressed by some teachers in this forum on the imminent death of poetry.

On a visit to a publisher a decade ago, armed with a few poems, the editor turned out to be a friend and a former college mate. His Information Science degree had landed him behind the desk.

He received me warmly but remarked, wryly, that publishers operate between a church and the stock market. They have to be charitable and publish great works of literature, but at the same time make profit.

Admittedly, they seem to lean more towards the latter. This is evidenced by the textbooks and revision “passing-made-easy” material that litter bookshop shelves and the streets.

I was also informed that poetry books do not sell. I was, therefore, lucky that one of my poems

was published in their new millennium collection. For my pains, I received a paltry Sh300, paid from the petty cash kitty. However, I was glad to have received my first pay cheque.

The situation has changed to a large extent. With the advent of the information age and growth of ICT, I believe it is now easier to self-publish.

Numerous firms are ready to print a writer’s work at his own cost.

The Internet and social sites also offer poets a chance to vent and escape the grip of mainstream publishers. They can now publish at a button’s touch to a ready international readership that will respond to their work.

Indeed, if poetry is read, then it means it has a market that is not exploited locally.

I have read numerous young poets who write quality work. For instance, a young lawyer, Waruguru wa Kiai, is a great tough-hitting satirist. Ordinary

For salvation in the ‘digital age’ does not believe in such things as traditional weddings or funeral ceremonies or even circumcision. Dirges, for instance, sound more of an argument with God, something this crop of teachers cannot stand.

Thirdly, the ‘digital’ teachers have no time for research. They come to school on demand and they leave their diaries open. They can move out of class to receive a call, never to come back, only sending word through the class prefect that students can read the next comprehension and answer questions that follow. I recall the commitment of the teachers who taught me at St Peters High School, Mumias, and wonder if they could stand such colleagues in their departments.

To remedy the situation, we must first change the way teachers are trained. Let universities emphasise practicals, and not written exams, at least with respect to oral literature. Curriculum designers must find a way of restoring the relevance of oral literature as an independent discipline. We can no longer leave the future of oral literature at the mercy of an individual teacher. The curriculum developers must present teachers with only one option — teaching Oral literature independently!

The writer is a law student at the University of Nairobi

Mind and Myq Wuds, who run Eldoret Poets, are no ordinary poets.

Others include Velona Seth, Paul Khisa, Michael Mwangi K, Shirrow and the irreverent Oyoo Mboya. Our university literature departments need to wake up to the current revolution even as they quote Ngugi, Taban and Okot.

High school teachers also need to sow the poetic seed in their charges early. Poetry cannot be difficult if we agree that many enjoy music, yet the two are closely related. I bet the best way is for both teachers and the learners to write their own pieces. This would make poetry easier to appreciate because it reflects the surroundings.

Lecturers with unkempt hair, sandals and beards, who still boast they are not on Facebook or Twitter, are definitely missing out on a great opportunity to understand and shape the future.

The writer lives in Laikipia

How to pick out a good book

BY PEEL MAINA MACHARIA

What makes a novel great? Some say unforgettable characters; others say moral lessons. Some will like a novel that makes them laugh. For me, a great novel has to be captivating.

As a teacher of English and literature, I don’t like writers whose work makes you yawn. No, literature should always delight and enliven, like a lively, lovely and lithe lady in the heat of African drums. That’s why I consider James Hadley Chase the master of writing.

Chase wrote killer thrillers in the 1950s and 1960s. He cleverly used nail-biting suspense to grip readers and mint millions from book sales. His novels involved murder or other crimes.

In the Chase novels, you meet characters that seem very real. You meet a charming, beautiful but brainless woman, the charmless, no-nonsense secretary and the naive young man with a peaceful life who descends into hell after trying to be adventurous. Throw in the hard-boiled trigger-happy criminal and the detective with a third eye and you have an explosive book.

Who would forget the beautiful Miss Shumway in *Miss Shumway Waves a Wand*?

There is also Ansell, the herbal doctor who sells his never working tablets to unsuspecting customers. Ansell never returns to the same town twice for obvious reasons.

Lovers of literature love to find pebbles of wisdom in literary works. Some critics of Chase accuse him of encouraging crime by featuring criminals, but a keen reader will see them as books that inform us of the unsafe world we live in. A reader learns not to judge anything by appearance when hitherto innocent-looking individuals are exposed as the ruthless.

I like Chase’s brand of humour. The naivety of his innocent but endearing characters is amusing. Aesthetically endowed women are wittily described. One character states that if a certain woman were to nurse him, he would choose to be bedridden forever.

The endings of his novels are as unpredictable as life. However, good guys win but no criminal escapes in a Chase novel.

Reading his novels enabled me to write a short story, *Flight of the Fox*, featured in the *Daily Nation* on May 15, 2008. If you charm readers, they’ll give you a chance.

The writer is a teacher at Dr Kiano Secondary School. peelmaina@yahoo.com

To contribute to this page, please send your comments to satnation@ke.nationmedia.com or write to The Editor, Saturday Nation, POB 49010, Nairobi 00100.

THEATRE REVIEW | 'Forbidden' opened on Thursday and runs to tomorrow at Alliance Francaise

When marital lies catch up with you

Festival of Creative Arts completes project started by departed colleague Derrick Amunga

BY ANYIKO OWOKO
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Derrick Amunga was meant to direct the play *Forbidden* for the Festival of Creative Arts. Unfortunately, he died before the play could be staged. The FCA crew, however, vowed to bring to fruition Amunga's dream, and *Forbidden* finally opened to the public at Alliance Francaise in Nairobi from Thursday this week. It runs through to tomorrow.

Actress and co-director of *Forbidden*, Mwalimu Mbeki, says: "I don't think we'll be able to do a play and not remember Amunga. And the fact that he was meant to direct this play has unified all the actors in the play."

The hilarious play is about a double-dealing man secretly married to two wives.

Renowned actor Nick Ndeda plays Kamau, the 20-something year-old taxi driver who double deals two women. He is married to both women secretly. "I love my first wife (played by Nice Githinji) because she's motherly, nurturing and caring. My second wife, (acted by the play's co-director Veronica Waceke), however, is hot, spicy and daring. She even asked me to marry her! I love them both," Nick says of his conniving character.

Using the weird timings of his taxi business as an excuse, he convinces both women that he's at work during his absence — time which he divides equally between the two.

There is trouble in paradise as soon as the play kicks off. Mr Kamau gets involved in an altercation with a mugger. He ends up injured and seeks treatment. While leaving hospital, he mistakenly gives the address of one of his women's houses, where he wasn't supposed to be that day. Meanwhile, his wives are going crazy trying to trace him. They have contacted the police. Mr Kamau then engages the police in a cat and mouse chase.

His loyal friend, Ambrose (Xavier Nato) tries to be an accomplice to the plot; but it's a secret too hard to keep. "Mr Kamau is the guy who gives me Sh100 every time I need some cash — I never return the money. Throughout the play I overlook Kamau's deceptions,



ANTHONY OMUYA | NATION

(From left) Xavier Nato, Janet Kirinda and Nick Ndeda during a scene in the play 'Forbidden', showing at Nairobi's Alliance Francaise. The play by the Festival of Creative Arts closes tomorrow.

hoping it's the only way I can pay my debts; but at the end I am in so much trouble that I wish I had remained with the debt," Xavier says.

It turns out that the police are really after Kamau not because of his double life but because of a treasure left in his taxi without his knowledge. As the play goes on, we get to know the secret lives of the other characters. A lot of them are forbidden.

"In the play I am homophobic and at some point Kamau's lies end up revealing me to be homosexual, yet am not," says Xavier. Together, the eight-member cast transports the audience through a journey of well-calculated tales.

Forbidden outlines themes of sexuality and family. Characters cringe at the mention of homosexuality and transvestism. Kamau's wives are devastated when they find out about his double marriage.

Play co-director Veronica says *Forbidden* was adapted from a Broadway script and Kenyanised.

The play's co-director Mwalimu says: "Writing an original play isn't easy. However, adapting one isn't either. We producers have to change the title and storyline to fit our society and for it to be current. Sometimes we adapt plays from the 1980s."

Terming *Forbidden* as simply pure entertainment, Veronica says: "There is no deep reason the makers of the



Derrick Amunga

play chose it, other than fascination with the script. When we first came across it, we were impressed by its twists and turns. It needed time for the producers and the cast to grasp. Rehearsals are a struggle but when you find that you laugh at the final product — your job is done."

Mwalimu reveals the inspiration behind the play's title *Forbidden*: "A lot of things are forbidden in this play that are synonymous with our society. For instance, while polygamy is accepted in Kenya, bigamy isn't."

Nick Ndeda feels *Forbidden* truly represents the Kenyan society. "A lot of people can relate to my character, even though sometimes they don't go to the extreme of having two wives. However, many people in relationships come up with lies to cover

secret affairs. This kind of lifestyle, however, is tiresome."

Nice Githinji plays Kamau's first and naive wife. She says of her character: "She is old school and when she finds out that her husband has been with another man and a transvestite, too (lies told to cover his other marriage), she's too shocked to take it. The first Mrs Kamau didn't necessarily give her husband too much freedom but it was the nature of his job that gave him room to cheat."

Co-director Mwalimu says: "Life is so hard in Kenya; when an audience comes to watch a play, they just want to get entertained. Kenyans appreciate comedy. Look at the number of stand-up comedies being staged and how big *Churchill Show* has become."

"The late Amunga was brilliant. He had perfect timing — he knew when to pause, or laugh or show an expression. When I see *Forbidden*, I can't help but see little things about Amunga through the cast member's characters. His passing on has actually brought the actors community in Kenya together."

Forbidden will show at Alliance Francaise up to tomorrow.

Another play, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, will show at the same venue from September 26 to 28. From October 4, Fanaka Arts Theatre will stage a Kikuyu play, *Thingira na Mike Rua* at the same venue.

Mombasa hosts Ethiopian New Year festival



KEVIN ODIT | DAILY NATION

(From left) Mombasa Governor Hassan Joho, Ethiopian ambassador Shemsudin Ahmed and Wondwossen Fassie, proprietor of Sheba Restaurant, during the Ethiopian New Year celebration in Mombasa on September 11, 2014.

BY SYLVANIA AMBANI
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In Ethiopia, it is officially 2007. Ethiopian residents in Kenya marked their New Year last week with celebrations in Mombasa. Present at the celebrations was Mombasa governor Ali Hassan Joho and the Ethiopian ambassador to Kenya, Shemsudin Ahmed, among other guests.

Mr Joho said his county was exploring business links with investors from Ethiopia and would soon send a delegation to Addis Ababa. He said security had been restored in the coastal

county.

"We have suffered so long because of exaggerations made on matters concerning security. However, events such as the Ethiopian New Year celebrations are a clear indication that peace and tranquillity has been restored."

Revellers in traditional attire, the *gabbi* for the men and *natella* for the women, were treated to Ethiopian music and traditional cuisine. Wondwossen Kassie, a businessman and the owner of the only Ethiopian restaurant in Mombasa, the Sheba Lounge, said: "This is the third time I have organised the New Year

celebrations of Ethiopia in Mombasa and each year it is getting bigger and better."

Food consisted of the Ethiopian national dish called the *wat*, a spicy stew, accompanied by *injera*, a large spongy pancake made of teff flour and water.

"Apart from the language barrier, our culture is very simple. To us, eating is like a ceremony and mostly the whole family must sit together to enjoy the food," said Wondwossen.

After the meal what follows is a traditional drink called *bunna*. To the rest of us, it is known as coffee. It is usually served in little cups.

WEEK'S PICK

TODAY
NANYUKI DINNER THEATRE

A dinner theatre organised by the Arts Canvas will be held this evening at Le Rustique in Nanyuki. Performances will be by Katy Bingham, Kaz, Mumbi Kaigwa, Steve Murua Gakunju Kaigwa among others. The show starts at 7pm.

RUMBA CLASSICS WITH BILENGE

The new-look Bilenge Musica Du Congo led by Darze Kalend will stage rumba classic shows tonight and tomorrow at Dream Village Restaurant in Nairobi South B. Lined up also is a rumba dancing contest.

AMY WINEHOUSE SHOW



The Tambo Village Market will this evening host An Evening of **Amy Winehouse** with Danger's Crew. The show is dedicated to the late British pop singer.

BURN LAUNCH PARTY

Burn Events Kenya will stage the Burn Launch Party this evening at G-Skyye Lounge, Parklands in Nairobi. Music will be provided by DJ Incredible. The show will be held from 8pm till dawn.

TOMORROW
WAHOME BOOK LAUNCH

Author Ndiritu Wahome will launch his book, *The Sad Artist and Other Fairy Tales*, tomorrow during the ongoing StoryMoja Festival in Koko Riko Tent at the Nation Museum in Nairobi. The launch event will start at 11am.

KANDA KING IN MACHAKOS

Popular dance sensation and singer Kanda King performs every Sunday at Machakos People's Park. On Fridays, he performs at Dajosky in Nairobi's Umoja estate, while every Wednesday he performs at the Club Leos, Thika.

PEACE CONCERT

Afro-fusion star Eric Wainaina, Rabbit, Juliani, Larry Asego will be among the musicians to perform tomorrow during the One Day One Concert tomorrow at the Nairobi Arboretum. The show will start at 2pm.

SEPTEMBER 24
VINTAGE REGGAE



King Lions Sounds featuring **Papa Chally** will stage the Vintage Reggae every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday at Nairobi's Club Monte Carlo along Accra Road. On Fridays, the show will move to the New Ravers Lounge off Duruma Road in Nairobi.

SEPTEMBER 27
ELDORET QFM SISIBO DAY

The QFM Sisibo family fun day will be held next Saturday at the Eldoret 64 Stadium. Musicians Willy Paul, Gloria Muliro, KenRazzy and Lilian Rotich are among those lined up to perform.

CHILDREN'S ORCHESTRA

The Nairobi Childrens Orchestra performs every Saturday at the Peponi House Preparatory School in Nairobi. It is an exciting program for children aged 5 to 14 years. Performances start at 9am and end at 12pm.

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WORLD

MUSEVENI'S STAY AT US HOTEL
CANCELLED OVER GAY STAND

Hotel in Dallas cancel's Ugandan leader's stay after protests by gay group. **Page 40**

REFERENDUM | Scotland voted against independence from the United Kingdom in historic vote

Scottish leader quits after 'No' vote

Negotiations expected to start soon on what extra controls to give to Scottish Parliament

EDINBURGH, Friday

Scotland's pro-independence First Minister Alex Salmond said today he will step down from his post and as leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP) at its conference in November following a defeat for his separatist cause in a referendum on Thursday.

"I think that party, parliament and country would benefit from new leadership," he said at a press conference, adding that it had been "the privilege of my life" to serve as head of the Scottish regional government.

Scotland may have rejected independence but will now be handed new powers by Britain which could amount to effective home rule — though experts warn that agreeing to these could be messy.

British Prime Minister David Cameron on Friday promised to grant new powers to all parts of the United Kingdom after separatists in Scotland won 1.5 million votes in an independence referendum but were beaten by pro-unity supporters.

"Just as the people of Scotland will have more power over their affairs, so it follows that the people of England, Wales and Northern Ireland must have a bigger say over theirs," he said.

The PM also called for unity saying that the argument had been settled "for a generation".

"Now is the time for our United Kingdom to come together and



AFTERMATH

Politicians seek more for England

The promises made by the British government have also prompted politicians in Cameron's Conservative party to call for the same treatment for England.

Newspapers in northern England on Friday united to demand more powers for their regions in a "fair deal" after so many promises were made to Scotland during the referendum campaign.

Brown has promised Scotland "nothing less than a modern form of home rule."

Polls suggest this would be popular with the public.

Asked what should happen next after a "No" vote, 67 per cent said Scotland's parliament should take primary responsibility for tax and welfare benefits, according to poll trackers What



PHOTO | AFP

Scotland Thinks in August.

But some say Brown's timescale is too fast to be realistic given differences between the three parties on what they are prepared to give away.

"To rush headlong into new legislation may curry favour in the short term but is unlikely to provide a lasting settlement," wrote Professor Nicola McEwen of Edinburgh University in a blog this month.

McEwen told AFP that Salmond's Scottish National Party, in power north of the border, is also likely to put forward its own proposals "which would look completely different to what is on the table now."

Assuming an agreement can be reached for Scotland, it would increase pressure for more powers to be handed to other parts of the United Kingdom — the English regions plus Wales and Northern Ireland. (AFP)

Left: Pro-union supporters celebrate as Scottish independence referendum results are announced at a 'Better Together' event in Glasgow, Scotland, on September 19. Right: Disappointed Pro-Independence supporters are pictured in Edinburgh, Scotland after the results.

Tears, fears as independence bid defeated

EDINBURGH, Friday

Supporters of Scottish independence reacted with bitter disappointment on Friday as their hopes of breaking away from Britain were dashed, with some breaking down in tears in the streets of Edinburgh.

Many had stayed up all night in the hope of a new dawn for their nation but instead had to accept defeat on a grey, rainy morning in Scotland's capital.

"My feeling was just crushing, quite devastating," said 16-year-old Charlotte Darroch, who was at Edinburgh's main counting centre wearing her school uniform, her tie pinned with "Yes" badges and a Scottish flag wrapped around her shoulders.

Different opinion

"We all felt it was going to go the other way. I genuinely thought the feeling on the ground was different. I don't think people realised quite how important this was," she added.

One of thousands of under 18s given the vote for the first time ever in Britain, Darroch pledged not to give up hope after 1.6 million people, more than a third of the electorate, voted for independence.

"This isn't the end of the 'Yes' campaign," she said.

The "No" camp's victory by a surprisingly large margin was devastating for many "Yes" supporters but those in favour of staying in Britain welcomed the result with relief.

At a party organised by the Better Together campaign in Glasgow, activists cheered, hugged, danced and cried as it became clear they had won.

The response among many ordinary people who voted "No" was more muted, though. (AFP)

Obama welcomes 'No' vote as EU sees boost for 'united' Europe



BRUSSELS, Friday

European Union leaders hailed Scotland's rejection of independence on Friday, saying the vote will help strengthen and unite the 28-member bloc.

"I welcome the decision of the Scottish people to maintain the unity of the UK," European Commission head

Jose Manuel Barroso (left) said.

"This outcome is good for the united, open and stronger Europe that the European Commission stands for," Barroso said in a statement.

EU president Herman Van Rompuy said the outcome meant Britain "is and will remain an important member of the European Union to the benefit of all citizens and member states."

European Parliament President Martin Schulz said he was "relieved" about the outcome of the vote.

"I admit, I am relieved about the result," Schulz said on German public radio when asked about the rejection of independence by voters.

US President Barack Obama congratulated Scotland on its "full and energetic exercise of democracy," as

he welcomed the results rejecting independence from the UK.

"We have no closer ally than the UK, and we look forward to continuing our strong and special relationship with all the people of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as we address the challenges facing the world today," US President Barack Obama said in a statement. (AFP)

NAIROBI 94.4 FM
ELDORET 96.7
MOMBASA 87.9
NAKURU 103.3
NYERI 99.9
MERU 107.1
KISUMU 102.1
KISII 96.1 MHz

QFM
Kata Kuu

ASTON VILLA vs ARSENAL

Saa 5.00 Jioni Jumamosi 20 Sept 2014

Michuano ya English Premier League ndani ya QFM
Chenga kiu ya kandanda na Rashid na Apopo



CURBING SPREAD | Six million people to be confined in homes as health workers educate population

Sierra Leone in Ebola lockdown

Shutdown expected to reverse spread of deadly virus and boost efforts to stop the outbreak

FREETOWN, Friday

Sierra Leone on Friday launched a controversial three-day shutdown to contain the deadly spread of the Ebola virus, as the UN Security Council declared the deadly outbreak a threat to world peace. Most of Sierra Leone's population of six million were confined to their homes from midnight, with only essential workers such as health professionals and security forces exempt from the lockdown. Almost 30,000 volunteers will go door-to-door to educate locals and hand out soap, in an exercise that could lead to scores more patients and bodies being discovered in people's homes.

Criticised shutdown

Health experts have criticised the shutdown, arguing that coercive measures to stem the epidemic could backfire and be extremely hard to implement. Doctors Without Borders (MSF) warned that lockdowns may end up driving people underground "and jeopardise the trust between people and health providers". But Sierra Leone President Ernest Koroma said that if the population were to heed the vol-



TRAGIC Health team killed in Guinea

Seven people who were part of a team sent to educate villagers in the southeast about Ebola were found dead. The team had been missing after coming under attack from stone-throwing locals on Tuesday. "It's very sad and hard to believe but they were killed in cold blood by the villagers," the government said

A Muslim faithful on pilgrimage to Mecca undergoes temperature checks for Ebola at an airport in Lagos on Friday. Sierra Leone on Friday launched a three-day lock down in a bid to stop the viral spread.

unteers' advice, "the campaign will greatly help to reverse the increasing trend of the disease transmission and become a very big boost to our collective effort to stop the outbreak." "These are extraordinary times and extraordinary times require

extraordinary measures," added Koroma in a message broadcast on television and radio. The extreme move comes amid mounting global concern over the Ebola epidemic, which has so far killed more than 2,600 people in west Africa. (AFP)

PHOTO | AFP

I am not dead, Zambia leader Sata declares

LUSAKA, Friday

Zambia's elusive President Michael Sata made a rare public appearance on Friday, opening a new session of parliament and declaring "I am not dead." The 77-year-old leader, who until recent campaign events had not been seen in public for three months, appeared with his wife, Christine, whom he thanked for keeping him going. "She has made me stay up to now, I am not dead," he said, his voice cracking. Sata took power in 2011 is rumoured to be seriously ill, an allegation his office denies. Analysts say a power struggle is already underway behind the scenes for Zambia's top job. Sata's Friday address was punctuated by jokes, but he did not read the whole address, leaving the full written version for the record. "I thank you for listening and I am leaving the whole speech to the Speaker," he said before officially opening Parliament. Sata had said his government would focus on improving the agriculture sector and building new accommodation for the students. Last week he spoke briefly in a political rally. (AFP)

Document Digitization Solutions

The Daily Nation on September 29, 2014 will publish a special feature on Document Digitization and Archiving focusing on paper work management solutions highlighting:-

- » Bulk document handling, & collection services;
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To advertise in this special, contact the project coordinator, Iwanjiru@ke.nationmedia.com or call (0724 950629)

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

Telephone: 0202149797. Fax: 055-30773
Email: bungomacountyassembly@gmail.com
Ref: BGM/ASS/SEC/COMM/1025 VOL.I

P.O BOX 1886-50200,
BUNGOMA, Kenya
Date: 19th September, 2014

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON FINANCE BILL 2014/2015

Article 196(4)(b) of the Constitution of Kenya and Section 133 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 provides for Public participation in the County Finance Bill preparation process. In compliance with this statutes, the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning of the County Assembly of Bungoma invites members of the Public for participation on Public hearings in all Sub-Counties as per the schedule below:-

DATE	SUB-COUNTY	VENUE	TIME
24/09/2014	WEBUYE EAST & WEBUYE WEST	WEBUYE TOWN HALL	10:00 A.M.
24/09/2014	TONGAREN & KIMILILI	KIMILILI MUNICIPAL HALL	2:00 P.M.
25/09/2014	KABUCHAI & SIRISIA	CDF OFFICES - MUSESE	10:00 A.M.
25/09/2014	KANDUYI & BUMULA	KIE HALL BUNGOMA	2:00 P.M.
26/09/2014	MT. ELGON	FORMER COUNTY COUNCIL HALL	10:00 A.M.

Members of the Public can make their submissions at the venue or through:-

The Clerk to County Assembly
P.O. Box 1886-50200
BUNGOMA.

OR

Hand delivery to the office of the Clerk, County Assembly of Bungoma Moi Avenue, Bungoma or email to bungomacountyassembly@gmail.com to be received on or before Wednesday, 24th September, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

ERICK NGOBILO
PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
FOR CLERK TO COUNTY ASSEMBLY.

LETTER FROM AMERICA | Randall smith

Like King Richard’s death, truth will rise even if it takes centuries

A few years ago, the British found the remains of King Richard III under a parking lot in Leicester. Ever since, scientists have been trying to figure out the circumstances around the king’s death in 1485.

Rued by Shakespeare and others, Richard was said to have murdered two young heirs to the throne. According to stories, his life was nothing more than one cruel act after another. Hence, the interest by British historians.

The findings, released this week, show that Richard died heroically in battle at Bosworth. Knocked from his horse, he fought valiantly, suffering ten wounds - eight to the head. The fatal blow was a sword in his skull.

The moral of this story is that history is written by the victors, and many times it is untrue. Richard, the last royal killed in battle, did not die a coward. He was killed by the Tudor clan, which went on to commit heinous crimes against the Irish, Scots and Welsh.

Feelings still run deep. Note the Scottish independence drive this week. America is made up of a huge sum of immigrants who have fled British turmoil. My friends in Ireland say there are more Irish in America than Ireland.

A secondary lesson is that the truth will rise - even if it takes over 500 years.

In South Africa, the people’s history was buried under apartheid until Nelson Mandela was elected. In India, the same occurred until the election of Ghandi. In China, Tiananmen Square will live on forever despite government attempts to quash the memory. Idi Amin was unsuccessful in Uganda, and the old Soviet Union could not stop the democratic sway of Eastern Europe.

Beyond this, there are - as former US vice-president Al Gore would say - the inconvenient truths.

On American news shows, equal time is often given to pro and anti climate change debate. Yet, over 95 per cent of the scientific community believes that global warming is on the rise and that the world may be past a time of no return.

There is a move away from vaccinations in many American wealthy communities, because of a mistaken belief that autism is the result. Do not be surprised if you hear that dreaded diseases are breaking out in posh suburban communities.

For years, I watched the American tobacco industry make smoking out to be a romantic, manly lifestyle. Then, as a young boy, I saw my chain-smoking uncle die a painful death from emphysema.

The world’s reaction to Ebola in West Africa has been too little, too slow and too late. President Obama hesitated before sending 3,000 troops. The clinics offered by countries like Cuba, China and Japan are too small. We have ignored reality, and may pay a big price.

Truth is a constant and has consequences that last forever. This lesson has been taught to humanity over thousands of generations. Yet, we often wait hundreds of years - like we did with King Richard - to confirm its existence.

rsmith4825@gmail.com

CRISIS | Officers suspect soldiers passing near commander’s home

Lesotho police, army exchange fire

Relations between army and police continue to sour since coup attempt

MASERU, Friday

Police and the military exchanged gunfire in Lesotho’s capital Maseru in the early hours of Friday, as Africa’s tiny mountain kingdom continued to suffer the fall-out from last month’s coup attempt by a renegade army commander.

Police suspicions were raised early on Friday when a group of soldiers drove past the home of police commander Khothatso Tsooana, who has previously survived a grenade-attack on his home.

“If they were planning something, I’m not sure... Soldiers came close, and the police on guard followed them,” Maseru Police District Commissioner Mofokeng Kolo told AFP.

“I don’t know yet who fired first,” he said, adding that there were no injuries.

Lesotho, which is surrounded by South Africa, was rocked by an attempted coup on August 30 that has left relations between police and armed forces on a



“If they were planning something, I’m not sure. Soldiers came close, and police on guard followed them”

Maseru Police District Commissioner Mofokeng Kolo

knife edge.

The attempted seizure of power was blamed on “renegade” Lesotho Defence Force commander Tlali Kamoli, who has refused to step down from the military and been blamed for a series of attacks on police and political rivals.

Prime Minister Tom Thabane (above) shut down parliament and fled to South Africa following the violence. There were several attacks on police

August 30 during an army raid on a police armoury.

Some 2,000 police attended the service, as well as Kamoli’s replacement Lieutenant General Maaparankoe Mahao, who had also fled in August after an assassination attempt.

“There must be a solution without more deaths,” said Mahao, flanked by heavily armed South African police.

Early elections

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has called for early elections and provided increased police protection for Thabane and his allies.

The number of South African police in Lesotho and their rules of engagement have not been revealed. Kolo said they were not involved in Friday’s shoot-out.

Despite regional pressure to resolve the crisis, little progress has been made, with Thabane saying he cannot reopen parliament until Kamoli is brought under control. (AFP)

France begins strikes in Iraq as anti-IS drive widens

BAGHDAD, Friday

France carried out its first air strike against the Islamic State group in Iraq on Friday, boosting US-led efforts to unite the world against the growing threat posed by the jihadists.

More than a decade after Paris famously refused to back the invasion of Iraq, France became the first nation to join the US campaign of air strikes in the war-torn country.

“This morning at 9:40, our Rafale planes carried out a first strike against a logistics depot of the terrorist organisation (IS),” President Francois Hollande said.

His office said the target was in northeastern Iraq, without specifying exactly where, only adding: “The objective was hit and completely destroyed.”

170

More than this number of airstrikes have been carried out by the US since August 8.

Museveni stay at US hotel aborts after gays protest

DALLAS, Texas, Friday
By Anthony Karanja

A US hotel has cancelled Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni’s stay after protests by the gay community over the so called “kill the gays” bill.

According to *Dallas Voice* which claims to be the premier media source for Lesbian Gay Bi-sexual and Transgender Texas, Four Seasons Hotel in the Irving area cancelled Uganda’s first couple’s stay after the Dallas area LGBT group called the hotel in protest.

President Museveni is scheduled to be in Dallas on Saturday and Sunday to meet with Ugandans living in Texas and also promote Uganda as a tourist destination. Museveni is also

expected to meet potential investors in Uganda’s oil and gas industry.

Following the cancellation, Museveni’s team reached out to the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Centre in the city of Grapevine to obtain alternative accommodation. The hotel is about 11 miles west of the original hotel.

Speaking to the *Nation* by phone on Thursday afternoon, Gaylord Texans’ director of Marketing and Public Relations Martha Niebling said that the hotel had received a request by Museveni’s team for accommodation rooms and to hosting an event at their facilities but they were not able to provide them due to “short notice and lack of space.” (AFP)

VIOLENCE | Palestinian demonstrators clash with Israeli forces



PHOTO | AFP

A Palestinian hurls rocks at Israeli security forces (unseen) during clashes following a protest on Friday in the village of Kfar Qaddum, near the northern city of Nablus, in the occupied West Bank. An Israeli-Arab rights group on Thursday, called for an international investigation into alleged Israeli war crimes during the latest Gaza conflict, a week after the army dismissed several cases.

French defence ministry sources said two jets dropped laser-guided GBU-12 bombs in the Mosul area.

Kurdish military spokesman Halgord Hekmat identified the location as Tal Mus, between the city of Mosul and Zumar.

“We are very happy that France started its raids,” he told AFP.

France, as well as Britain, had already sent aircraft into Iraq’s skies for surveillance missions, but Friday’s strike was its first against the jihadists.

US aircraft have carried out more than 170 strikes since August 8 but President Barack Obama has been keen to build a broad international coalition.

The bombing campaign was launched to protect Iraqi Kurdistan from advancing jihadists and attempt to help the autonomous region’s troops retake the ground they lost.

Jihadists who had already controlled large swathes of land in neighbouring Syria led a militant offensive that took the city of Mosul, Iraq’s second largest, on June 10 and then swept through much of the Sunni heartland. (AFP)

BUSINESS



ORACLE FOUNDER STEPS DOWN AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Larry Ellison, estimated to be the world's fifth wealthiest man, now becomes chairman and chief technology officer. **Page 43**

CONSEQUENCE | Failure to sign agreement would see horticulture exports attract high taxes

Region's fresh produce deal with EU top agenda in Arusha meeting

Today's forum signifies the frantic efforts bloc is making to beat September 30 deadline set to sign EPAs

BY AGGREY MUTAMBO
@agmutambo
amutambio@ke.nationmedia.com

Representatives of the East Africa Community member States meet today in Arusha to finalise the details on the Economic Partnership Agreements with the European Union.

The meeting signifies the frantic efforts the bloc is making to beat the September 30 deadline to sign the deal with the EU or else lose out on the privileges their products enjoy in the market.

Vegetable exports would be the worst-hit as they will be subject to up to 30 per cent of their export value in duty if the two blocs fails to agree.

Yesterday, Foreign Affairs Cabinet Secretary Amina Mohammed told the *Saturday Nation* that the Arusha meeting would discuss the EU offers.

"We are working on it. I will be going to Arusha tomorrow and hopefully we can conclude the negotiations amongst ourselves because we have had preliminary agreements with the EU," she said in Nairobi. "It is now more positive than it has been before."

The two sides were expected to sign the agreement by September 30 and Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Karanja Kibicho has this past week toured Burundi and Brussels, the headquarter of the EU, to work out the issues.

Flexible regime

Kenya says the negotiations have so far narrowed down to three from 10 issues but the region is pushing for easier taxation regimes especially on fresh produce exported to Europe.

The country is championing for a flexible regime to enable it introduce preventive measures especially in times of drought, without burdening the farmers.

Kenya would have chosen to negotiate alone with the EU, but the country opted to bring in the bloc in what it argues would help build the pace of regional integration.

A week ago, Dr Kibicho told reporters in Nairobi that part of the delays resulted from



SALATON NJAU | NATION

Foreign Affairs Cabinet Secretary Amina Mohammed. Kenya has been pushing for easier taxation regimes in talks on trade deal between the region and the European Union over fresh produce exports.

30

Percentage duty which vegetable exports from Kenya would start attracting if country fails to sign EPAs with the European Union

the fact that EAC member States fall on different scales of development.

"Signing of the EPAs must not kill our desire for regional integration that we have worked so hard to get where we are," he said.

Delicate balance

"One of the challenges is that we are negotiating as a group with countries belonging to the LDC (Least Developed Countries). To them, it is not urgent as it is to us.

"This is a delicate balance because we don't want to have a situation where we have two systems in the East African Community, where some countries are LDC and Kenya is not."

Yet Kenya's desire to go on its own could be its undoing. The Arusha meet will be the

third time the bloc member countries are meeting to work out the issues of taxation, governance and subsidies.

There has been suspicion that some EAC members are reluctant to sign because they won't be affected after all. Under the Everything but Arms agreements, LDCs are allowed to duty-free access to most EU markets. They also enjoy duty-free quotas on some food items until they get out of the category.

Negotiations for the EPAs between the EAC and the EU started seven years ago with an initial framework EPA agreed in November 2007.

The two blocs, however, have routinely failed to agree on a number of issues causing the deadline to be postponed time and again.

“

Hopefully we can conclude the negotiations amongst ourselves because we have had preliminary agreements with the European Union.”

Foreign Affairs and International Trade Cabinet Secretary Amina Mohammed

NEGOTIATIONS

Why the talks have been slow

Negotiations for the EPAs between the EAC and the EU started seven years ago.

But there has been suspicion that some EAC members are reluctant to sign deal because they won't be affected after all.

Treasury eyes Sh9.6bn from State-owned firms to plug budget deficit

BY NATION CORRESPONDENT

The government expects to get Sh9.6 billion in dividend this year from companies it has shares in to plug budget deficit.

Speaking when he received cheques from Kenya-Re and Postal Corporation of Kenya (PCK), National Treasury Cabinet Secretary, Mr Henry Rotich, said the government has started reaping from the reforms instituted in State-owned firms.

Mr Rotich received Sh252 million from Kenya-Re and Sh17.3 million from PCK out of the profits the two made last year.

"We expect the new Bill that will be taken to Parliament soon to ensure the industry is well regulated to facilitate competition and penetration. Kenya-Re should be among the vehicles to boost domestic savings that can be used to fund infrastructure projects," he said.

First since 1999

The dividend from PCK were the first since 1999, which ICT Cabinet Secretary, Mr Fred Matiang'i, said was a signal of the turnaround that the parastatal had gone through following reforms initiated by the government.

"This is the beginning of the delivery of promises made by Jubilee government. For the first time since 1999, PCK has given dividend. This begins a new narrative that it does not need to be a point of loss making. We are going to carry out a raft of further reforms that involve integrative services such as Huduma Centres," he said.

Reforms

Mr Rotich said the profitability witnessed in the telecommunications sector, touching on PCK, Safaricom and Communications Authority where the government has stake has given impetus to roll out further reforms.

PCK intends to automate its services by early next year at a cost of Sh700 million to enable it to compete in the market.

New levy to see road contractors part with millions

BY NATION CORRESPONDENT

Investors who have embarked on new construction projects in the past three months would part with millions of shillings as the regulator enforces a new levy.

Developers will be required to pay National Construction Authority (NCA) 0.5 per cent of the total value of the contract backdated to June 6,

the regulator noted in a newspaper advert yesterday.

"This is in relation to all construction projects in buildings, roads, water works, electrical works and other related works that require a contractor," NCA executive director Daniel Manduku said.

The levy is to be paid by all project owners including ministries, State corporations, NGOs, private firms,

social groups and individuals, said Mr Manduku.

According to NCA, all developers are required to register their projects with the authority within 30 days of awarding a contract. "No construction works shall be commenced without the compliance certificate from the authority," Mr Manduku added.

NCA has powers to suspend, cancel or revoke the registration of a contrac-

tor who executes works that has not been paid for.

The levy would push up the cost of building houses and slow growth in the sector but NCA said smaller contractors will benefit from cheap loans as a result of the fees. It targets to raise Sh1.7 billion annually for the revolving fund to offer loans with interest rates between four and six per cent through commercial banks.



MARCELO GIUGALE | Fiscal discipline is a lot more difficult when a country has natural resources

Tough and credible rules needed to prevent counties from amassing debts

No central government wants toxic dues by devolved units left at its doorstep, while no region wants to face a dilemma between paying creditors and firing its workers

Like many countries, Kenya has decentralised its government functions, shifting control to the counties. Done properly, decentralisation, also known as “devolution”, will bring many benefits to the citizens, from quality public services to more accountability on public officials.

But with increased power comes greater responsibilities, including the challenge of fiscal management. With devolution, “sub-nationals”, as states, counties, and cities are generically called, get cash transfers from the central government, they collect taxes, and borrow. How they manage these resources defines whether devolution as a whole succeeds. What can we learn from countries where it did? There are five, main lessons.

First, both federal and local authorities need to take fiscal responsibility seriously, fight tax evasion, keep spending in check, avoid large deficits, and take financial decisions transparently. Most critically, they must not over-borrow. When county debt gets out of control, major crises follow, as they did in Brazil in the 1980s and ‘90s. No central government wants debt amassed by counties left at its doorstep, while no local government wants to face a dilemma between paying creditors and firing civil servants.

Which brings us to the second lesson: to prevent local governments, and their lenders, from accumulating too much debt, a well-designed and well-enforced system of “sub-national borrowing regulation” is crucial. In practice, these systems range between two extremes: giving sub-nationals almost total freedom to borrow (as in the US) to banning nearly all borrowing at the local level (as in Chile).

80s
Years in which county debts got out of control sparking major crises in Brazil.



FILE | NATION

A worker installs a new water pipe in Mombasa County. Behind all the fiscal talk in counties, there are citizens, especially the poor, who need water, roads, healthcare as well as sanitation among other services.

Most countries choose an intermediate system. Some, such as India, put ceilings on the deficit, and thus the borrowing, that local governments can run (say, three per cent of the local “gross domestic product”). Others use alerts, such as Colombia’s creative “traffic lights”: If your financial accounts are strong, your light is “green” and you can borrow without authorisation from the central government; if it is “yellow” or “red”, well, the level of central scrutiny rises. And several use financial penalties if a certain debt level is exceeded, after its sub-national crises, Brazil championed these thresholds.

Take responsibility

Third, when sub-nationals can’t pay their debts, there should be no doubt about who takes over not just the debt, but also the responsibility for fiscal decisions. This is trickier than it sounds. If a mayor knows that the federal government will bail his city out, and no schools or

hospitals will ever be closed down, he will be tempted to over-borrow, and its creditors could over-lend.

This is referred to as “moral hazard”. To avoid it, the penalties for indiscipline have to be tough and credible. For a sad example, look at the ongoing bankruptcy of the city of Detroit, and the host of public services its citizens have lost.

Fourth, sub-national fiscal responsibility calls for citizen participation. Good laws are of little use if they are not enforced consistently. For that, nothing is better than a vigilant, informed citizenry that can press politicians into action. In Peru, local governments have to consult civil society on their social spending plans. The consultation is not legally binding, but what governor or mayor would dare ignore the direct messages from her constituency?

Finally, maintaining sub-national discipline is a lot more difficult when a country is blessed with natural resources

such as oil, gas, and minerals. These bring large fiscal revenues that are then distributed among levels of government. For local authorities, the pressure to spend mounts immediately, people rightly want to feel that they benefit from their country’s riches. Loan offers, collateralised on the local share of the resource multiply. So do opportunities for corruption.

Many resource-rich countries have squandered away their natural wealth and accumulated debt. Economists refer to this as the “resource curse”. This can and should be shunned. The initial step is for central and local governments to agree on how much of the rents will be saved by the country as a whole, how the rest will be spent, and who will spend. There are plenty of models for this: from the frugal “bird-in-hand” approach, you spend only the interest income from what you have already saved, to the lax “spend-as-you-go” — you burn every dollar that comes in as it comes in. You can guess which model is better for fiscal sustainability.

Borrowing

Kenya’s policy-makers and experts will gather in Nairobi on September 23 and 24 to debate the ins and outs of sub-national borrowing. This is not an academic exercise. Behind all the fiscal talk are people who need water, roads, healthcare, sanitation — all services that you expect your county governments to provide. How this pans out affects all citizens, especially the poor, who usually rely on those services. You want to be part of this debate.

The writer is the senior director of the World Bank’s global practice for macroeconomics and fiscal management.

Africa’s largest solar system to be built in Nairobi mall

BY NATION CORRESPONDENT

UK firm Solarcentury plans to construct a solar carport on the topmost storey of a car park at the upcoming Garden City Mall in Nairobi to provide alternative energy source to tenants.

The solar project, which will provide renewable power, is part of 32-acre integrated residential, retail park, hotel and office development where Garden City Mall is being constructed along Thika Road in Nairobi.

The solar installation would be financed through Solar4Africa, a 12-year financing plan, whose aim is to enable the mall to overcome barriers frequently affect commercial solar

“The system we have developed is perfect for urban areas where land is at a premium yet energy needs to be supplied near to demand”

Solacentury EA director Dan Davies

projects, Solarcentury’s East Africa director Dan Davies said.

“The system we have developed is perfect for urban areas where land is at a premium yet energy needs to be supplied near to demand,” Mr Davies said in a statement.

The solar project will constitute 3,300 solar panels on the carports. The dual-mode technology will provide solar energy in the daytime meaning less is used from the grid, and when the grid is down, the system also reduces the consumption of costly diesel back-up.

“Essentially, the system is able to operate in either mode. This dual-mode system ensures a consistent energy supply whilst reducing diesel and grid consumption,” Mr Davies said.

Now watchdog approves takeover of Ukwala store

BY SATURDAY NATION CORRESPONDENT

The competition watchdog has given retail chain Tuskys the go-ahead to acquire and operate the Jogoo Road branch of its rival, Ukwala Supermarkets.

Through a notice in yesterday’s *Kenya Gazette*, the Competition Authority of Kenya said the two firms could go ahead with the transaction but it excluded Ukwala’s five branches that were part of the original takeover deal.

Business and assets

“In exercise of the powers conferred by section 46 (6) (a) of the Competition Act, the Competition Authority of Kenya has approved the proposed acquisition cited herein

conditionally, and allowed for the acquisition of the business and assets of only the Ukwala Supermarket branch on Jogoo Road, Nairobi, by Tusker Matresses Ltd,” the notice said.

Unfair trade

Tuskys supermarket had earlier intended to take over six Ukwala Supermarket outlets. They included stores on Hakati Street, Ronald Ngala Street, Jogoo Road, Haile Selassie Avenue, and the two branches on Tom Mboya Street.

However, the watchdog declined to approve the take-over, saying that the companies were engaging in “horizontal restrictive trade practice.”

The two firms were fined Sh5.3 million earlier in the year for engaging in unfair trade practices.

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PUBLIC AUCTION
Duly instructed by our principal (the financier), we shall sell by public auction the under mentioned motor vehicles on **Saturday 27th September, 2014 at Leakey's Storage Ltd., along Kitui Road starting at 10:30 a.m.**

	REG. NO.	MAKE	MODEL	TO BE VIEWED AT
1	KBU 944M	ISUZU	CXZ LORRY	LEAKEY'S STORAGE LTD., KITUI ROAD
2	KBM 718B	NISSAN	DIESEL BUS	LEAKEY'S STORAGE LTD., KITUI ROAD
3	KBQ 085P	MITSUBISHI	CANTER	LEAKEY'S STORAGE LTD., KITUI ROAD
4	KBT 867A	MAN	BUS	LEAKEY'S STORAGE LTD., KITUI ROAD
5	KBC 933S	ISUZU	NQR	LEAKEY'S STORAGE LTD., KITUI ROAD
6	KBV 195A	ISUZU	TIPPER	LEAKEY'S STORAGE LTD., KITUI ROAD

CONDITIONS OF SALE
1. Viewing can be done at the indicated location to verify details as these are not warranted by the auctioneers or our principals.
2. All interested bidders are required to pay a refundable deposit of **Kshs. 100,000** to obtain a bidding number at our office in form of a Bankers Cheque.
3. The declared purchaser must deposit 25% of the purchase price by close of business auction day and the balance paid within seven (7) days from the auction date, failure to which the money received including the deposit will be forfeited.
4. Sale is subject to a reasonable reserve price.

PURPLE ROYAL AUCTIONEERS
Krishna Mansion, 1st Floor, Suite 14, Moktar Daddah Street, Opp. Jevanjee Gardens P.O. Box 26093-00100 Nbi.
Tel: 020-313696, 2243932 Mobile: 0713-562094 Email: purpleroyaltd@yahoo.com

PUBLIC AUCTION
Duly instructed by our Principals, **THE FINANCIERS**, we shall sell by public auction the following **REPOSSESSED** motor vehicle on **FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2014 AT PURPLE ROYAL AUCTION & STORAGE YARD, OPPOSITE ROCK CITY GARDENS KIAMBU ROAD** starting from 10.30a.m.

NO.	REG. NO	MAKE	MODEL.
1.	KBF 974A	SUBARU IMPREZA	S/WAGON

CONDITIONS OF SALE
1. All interested buyers are requested to view and verify all the details of the Motor vehicle as these are not warranted by the Auctioneer. 2. Refundable deposit of Kshs.50,000/= in form of **BANKER'S CHEQUE** ONLY strictly to be paid to obtain a bidding number 3. The motor vehicle will be sold on 'As Is Where Is' basis 4. Sale of motor vehicle is subject to reserve price and all documents are available. 5. Viewing can be done from 20th September, 2014 between 10.00a.m to 4.00p.m.

CAVEAT EMPTOR
(BUYER BEWARE!!!!)

TAKE NOTICE that L.R NO. 12715/125 (I.R. NO.44502) I.N.O ONESMAS KIAMBA NZAU situated in Mavoko within Machakos County is **NOT FOR SALE** our client **SHAMSHERALI MOHAMED LALANI** having purchased the property.

Members of the public are therefore put on **NOTICE** that any dealings in the property (whether by usage, rent, buying, selling or otherwise) without the express permission of our client are **NULL AND VOID AB INTIO** and no purported "interest" can be acquired or transferred from such dealings.

DRAWN BY
T.K.RUTTO & CO. ADVOCATES
BRUCE HOUSE 10TH FLOOR,
STANDARD STREET.
P. O. BOX 14580 – 00100
Email: truttoadvocates@gmail.com
NAIROBI

MANAGEMENT | Mark Hurd and Safra Catz have been named as successors, and become co-chief executives

Oracle founder steps down as chief executive

Larry Ellison, estimated to be the world’s fifth wealthiest man, becomes chairman and chief technology officer

Oracle boss Larry Ellison is stepping aside as chief executive after 37 years at the helm of the software giant. Mr Ellison, estimated to be the world’s fifth wealthiest man, becomes chairman and chief technology officer, remaining an influential presence at the company.

Mark Hurd and Safra Catz have been named as successors, and become co-chief executives. Mr Ellison, 70, co-founded what would become Oracle with Bob Miner and Ed Oates in 1977.

Bright future
In a statement, Oracle board president Michael Boskin said: “Larry has made it very clear that he wants to keep working full-time and focus his energy on product engineering, technology development and strategy. “Safra and Mark are exceptional executives who have repeatedly demonstrated their ability to lead, manage and grow the company. The



Oracle boss Larry Ellison. He co-founded the firm with Bob Miner in 1977.

directors are thrilled that the best senior executive team in the industry will continue to move the company forward into a bright future.” Ms Catz will run the manufacturing, legal and finance operations at Oracle, while Mr Hurd will be in charge of the sales, service and business units.

“Larry has made it very clear that he wants to keep working full-time and focus his energy on product engineering, technology development and strategy.”
Oracle board president Michael Boskin

70
Age of Oracle boss Larry Ellison who is stepping down as chief executive after 37 years at the helm of the tech giant

The software and hardware engineering teams will continue to report to Mr Ellison. “The three of us have been work-

ing well together for the last several years, and we plan to continue working together for the foreseeable future,” said Mr Ellison. The shake-up comes at a critical time for Oracle, which is trying to adapt to technological upheaval in the business software market.

Shift to cloud computing
Many corporate customers are shifting to cloud computing instead of paying licensing fees to install programs on machines kept in their own offices. FBR Capital Markets analyst Daniel Ives said: “While there was some speculation Larry could step down, the timing is a bit of a head scratcher in our opinion.” *Forbes* magazine has put Mr Ellison’s fortune at \$51.3 billion, with much of it tied up in Oracle, where he owns about 25 per cent of the company. He co-founded the firm with \$1,200 of his own money. A close friend of the late Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, Mr Ellison antics away from Oracle kept him in the news. This included his personal financing of the winning team in last year’s dramatic America’s Cup yacht race in San Francisco. (BBC)

NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE					
Last 12 Mths		Security	Prices		
High	Low		Yesterday	Previous	Shares
Agricultural					
36.75	23.50	Eaagads Ord 1.25	35.25	36.00	1,300
180.00	81.00	Kakuzi Ord 5.00	190.00	186.00	500
167.00	110.00	Kapchorua Tea Co Ord 5.00	133.00	133.00	5,000
750.00	460.00	The Limuru Tea Co. Ord 20.00		750.00	
30.00	24.50	Rea Vipingo Plantations Ord 5.00		27.50	
19.95	12.80	Sasini Ltd Ord 1.00	14.50	14.40	48,300
320.00	210.00	Williamson Tea Kenya Ord 5.00		302.00	
Automobiles & Accessories					
50.00	21.50	Car & General (K) Ord 5.00		45.75	
-	-	CMC Holdings Ord 0.50		13.50	
13.00	8.00	Marshall's (E.A.) Ord 5.00		9.80	
9.40	4.50	Sameer Africa Ord 5.00	6.90	6.95	93,400
Banking					
19.15	15.30	Barclays Bank Ord 0.50	17.50	17.30	754,600
155.00	68.00	CFC Stanbic of Kenya Holdings Ord 5.00	123.00	123.00	44,400
280.00	166.00	Diamond Trust Bank Ord 4.00	259.00	259.00	16,000
52.50	29.50	Equity Bank Ord 0.50	57.00	54.50	2,070,900
51.00	23.75	Housing Finance Co Ord 5.00	48.50	45.75	174,400
147.00	85.00	I & M Holdings Ltd Ord 1.00	136.00	139.00	16,100
60.00	41.25	KCB Ord 1.00	59.50	58.50	1,272,600
39.25	18.60	NBK Ord 5.00	27.00	27.50	277,700
81.00	54.50	NIC Bank Ord 5.00	74.00	73.50	139,500
347.00	280.00	StandardChartered Ord 5.00	345.00	339.00	39,200
25.00	14.80	Co-op Bank of Kenya Ord 1.00	20.00	19.35	2,668,700
Commercial & Services					
8.00	3.55	Express Ord 5.00	7.05	7.05	39,900
-	-	Hutchings Biemer Ord 5.00		20.25	
14.70	8.30	Kenya Airways Ord 5.00	9.55	9.25	215,200
18.00	5.00	Longhorn Kenya Ord 1.00	14.15	15.20	137,900
345.00	296.00	Nation Media Group Ord. 2.50	316.00	308.00	22,200
78.00	40.00	ScanGroup Ord. 1.00	44.75	44.50	41,900
37.00	25.00	Standard Group Ord 5.00	33.00	34.50	300
53.00	32.00	TPS EA (Serena) Ord 1.00	34.75	34.75	256,800
23.00	10.20	Uchumi Supermarket Ord 5.00	11.40	11.50	243,300
Construction & Allied					
98.50	84.00	ARM Cement Ord 1.00	86.00	83.50	13,000
220.00	156.00	BamburiCement Ord 5.00	153.00	153.00	5,100
115.00	60.00	Crown Paints Kenya Ord 5.00	110.00	108.00	1,600
18.00	13.50	E.A.Cables Ord 0.50	14.90	15.00	26,700
110.00	52.00	E.A.Portland Cement Ord 5.00	72.00	72.50	5,000
Energy & Petroleum					
17.90	8.70	KenGen Ord 2.50	10.60	10.70	464,600
10.50	7.90	KenolKobil Ltd Ord 0.05	9.35	9.10	4,604,500
16.00	12.85	KP&LC Ord 2.50	14.30	14.05	177,400
7.50	6.70	KP&LC 4% Pref.20.00		8.00	
-	-	KP&LC 7% Pref.20.00		5.50	
28.75	15.85	Total Kenya Ord 5.00	26.00	26.00	22,100
21.00	13.00	Umeme Ltd Ord 0.50		19.50	
Insurance					
34.00	7.80	British American Investments Co.0.10	34.00	33.00	1,367,600
12.20	4.20	CIC Insurance Group Ord 1.00	10.30	9.45	1,799,300
430.00	255.00	Jubilee Holdings Ord 5.00	425.00	428.00	1,400
21.00	13.10	Kenya Re Corporation Ord 2.50	18.45	18.35	269,400
23.00	11.05	Liberty Kenya Holdings Ord 1.00	19.10	18.30	351,700
145.00	55.00	Pan Africa Insurance Ord 5.00	129.00	128.00	7,300
Investment					
7.00	22.75	Centum Investment Co Ord 0.50	70.50	66.50	765,000
6.40	3.50	Olympia Capital Holdings Ord 5.00	4.55	4.50	23,000
37.75	20.00	Trans-Century LtdOrd 0.50	20.50	20.00	33,900

Investment Services									
25.75	15.00	Nairobi Securities Exchange Ord 4.00			25.00	23.50	1,509,600		
Manufacturing & Allied									
-		A.Baumann & Co. Ord 5.00				11.10			
190.00	113.00	B.O.C Kenya Ord 5.00			126.00	126.00	1,900		
879.00	521.00	British American Tobacco Kenya Ord 10.00			815.00	815.00	1,100		
67.50	25.00	Carbacid Investments Ord 5.00			28.50	28.50	131,300		
346.00	212.00	East African Breweries Ord 2.00			271.00	278.00	215,800		
4.00	2.40	Eveready EA Ord 1.00			3.00	2.95	90,500		
34.50	4.40	Kenya Orchards Ord 5.00			41.50	37.75	100		
4.20	1.85	Mumias Sugar Co. Ord 2.00			2.20	2.15	3,887,500		
38.50	15.00	Unga Group Ord 5.00			35.25	35.75	12,800		
Telecommunication & Technology									
13.50	7.45	Safaricom Ltd Ord. 0.05			12.60	12.60	30,923,400		
Growth & Enterprise Market Segment (GEMS)									
17.50	3.20	Home Afrika Ltd Ord. 1.00			4.45	4.55	900,900		
NSE All Share Index(NASI)-(1 Jan 2008=100 Up 1.70 points to close at 162.80									
NSE 20 Share Index Up 84.66 points to close at 5307.52 EquityTurnover-1,034,371,803 Prv-828,675,378									
BANK RATES									
		Euro	\$	£	C\$	SF	IR	JY	ZR
ABC	buy	113.59	88.40	144.62	-	98.61	1.45	81.21	8.00
	sell	113.90	88.60	144.99	-	98.88	1.45	81.43	8.05
Barclays	buy	114.64	88.80	146.57	80.98	94.96	1.46	81.22	7.99
	sell	115.07	89.10	147.08	81.31	95.38	1.46	81.55	8.03
Co-op	buy	115.02	88.90	144.15	80.35	95.07	1.45	82.91	7.96
	sell	115.30	89.10	144.51	80.55	95.32	1.43	83.13	8.23
Equity	buy	113.71	88.45	144.64	81.02	94.20	1.46	81.37	7.98
	sell	113.98	88.65	144.99	81.23	94.45	1.47	81.59	8.10
NBK	buy	114.42	88.60	144.42	80.63	94.27	1.45	81.66	8.03
	sell	115.54	89.30	145.54	81.27	95.07	1.46	82.31	8.10
KCB	buy	114.50	88.45	144.50	80.80	94.10	1.45	81.20	7.90
	sell	115.10	88.65	145.10	81.30	94.50	1.46	81.60	8.20
CBA	buy	115.30	89.00	145.04	80.70	95.26	1.46	82.89	8.14
	sell	115.69	89.20	145.50	81.25	95.49	1.46	83.12	8.17
CFC Stanbic	buy	114.66	89.65	146.26	81.14	95.00	1.45	81.39	8.02
	sell	114.94	89.05	146.59	81.32	95.21	1.46	81.57	8.12
GulfAfrican	buy	115.16	88.92	144.79	81.02	95.26	1.45	82.91	8.14
	sell	115.44	89.12	145.15	81.25	95.51	1.46	83.10	8.16
FCB	buy	117.40	87.70	147.30	80.20	96.70	1.30	85.80	7.70
	sell	118.00	87.90	148.30	80.70	96.80	1.60	85.80	8.70
Prime	buy	115.05	89.15	145.80	81.40	95.50	1.46	83.20	8.10
	sell	116.00	89.45	146.20	81.80	96.00	1.47	83.60	8.30
CBK RATES									
		Mean			Buy		Sell		
1 US Dollar		88.9456			88.8650		89.0261		
1 Sterling Pound		146.5936			146.4278		146.7594		
1 Euro		114.8753			114.7456		115.0050		
1 South African Rand		8.0257			8.0151		8.0363		
Ksh/Ush		29.4900			29.4071		29.5729		
1 Ksh/Tsh		18.7756			18.7024		18.8488		
1 Ksh/Rwanda Franc		7.7351			7.6831		7.7603		
1 Ksh/Burundi Franc		17.3422			17.2141		17.4703		
1 UAE Dirham		24.2164			24.1941		24.2386		
1 Canadian Dollar		81.2429			81.1405		81.3453		
1 Swiss Franc		95.1769			95.0556		95.2983		
100 Japanese Yen		81.6045			81.4908		81.7182		
1 Swedish Kroner		12.5132			12.4984		12.5280		
1 Norwegian Kroner		14.0686			14.0528		14.0844		
1 Danish Kroner		15.4172			15.4015		15.4329		
1 Indian Rupee		1.4614			1.4598		1.4630		
1 Hong Kong Dollar		11.4754			11.4650		11.4858		
1 Singapore Dollar		70.1851			70.1160		70.2542		
1 Saudi Riyal		23.7153			23.6935		23.7371		
1 Chinese Yuan		14.4910			14.4767		14.5053		
1 Australian Dollar		79.7797			79.7030		79.8564		

UNIT TRUSTS			
Money Market Funds		Daily Yield	Effective Annual Rate
African Alliance Kenya Shilling Fund		Kenya Shilling	7.29%
Old Mutual Money Market Fund		Kenya Shilling	7.08%
British-American Money Market Fund		Kenya Shilling	10.71%
Stanlib Money Market Fund		Kenya Shilling	9.99%
CBA Market Fund		Kenya Shilling	6.23%
CIC Money Market Fund		Kenya Shilling	10.43%
Zimele Money Market Fund		Kenya Shilling	9.0%
Amana Shilling Fund		Kenya Shilling	9.91%
ICEA Money Market Fund		Kenya Shilling	8.87%
Madison Asset Money Market Fund		Kenya Shilling	10.22%
GenCap Hela Fund		Kenya Shilling	10.93%
UAP Money Market Fund		Kenya Shilling	10.87%
Fixed Income Funds/Equity Funds/Balanced Funds		Buy	Sell
African Alliance Fixed Income Fund		Kenya Shilling	11.37
CIC Fixed Income Fund		Kenya Shilling	9.06
Standard Investment Income Fund		Kenya Shilling	94.91
UAP Enhanced Income Fund		Kenya Shilling	10.27
African Alliance Kenya Equity Fund		Kenya Shilling	204.97
ICEA Equity Fund		Kenya Shilling	160.08
British-American Equity Fund		Kenya Shilling	216.48
CBA Equity Fund		Kenya Shilling	169.18
CIC Equity Fund		Kenya Shilling	14.29
Old Mutual Equity Fund		Kenya Shilling	409.57
Stanlib Equity Fund		Kenya Shilling	185.15
Madison Asset Equity Fund		Kenya Shilling	53.86
GenCap Hisa Fund		Kenya Shilling	133.61
African Alliance Managed Fund		Kenya Shilling	22.67
British-American Managed Retirement Fund		Kenya Shilling	138.37
ICEA Growth Fund		Kenya Shilling	151.76
Amana Growth Fund		Kenya Shilling	111.54
British-American Balanced Fund		Kenya Shilling	197.04
CIC Balanced Fund		Kenya Shilling	13.65
Old Mutual Balanced Fund/Toboa		Kenya Shilling	163.78
Madison Asset Balanced Fund		Kenya Shilling	69.36
Amana Balanced Fund		Kenya Shilling	112.87
Zimele Balanced Fund		Kenya Shilling	5.88
Stanlib Balanced Fund		Kenya Shilling	130.99
GenCap Eneza Fund		Kenya Shilling	126.20
GenCap Iman Fund		Kenya Shilling	117.43
Stanlib Bond Fund B1		Kenya Shilling	101.23
Stanlib Bond Fund A		Kenya Shilling	100.87
Old Mutual East Africa Fund		Kenya Shilling	159.09
British American Bond Plus Fund		Kenya Shilling	143.70
GenCap Hazina Fund		Kenya Shilling	116.25
ICEA Bond Fund		Kenya Shilling	97.60
Old Mutual Bond Fund		Kenya Shilling	101.96
UAP High Yield Bond Fund		Kenya Shilling	10.21
ARAB CURRENCY/\$			
Algerian Dinar			79.2212
Bahrani Dinar			0.377701
Djibouti Franc			177
Egyptian Pound			7.15
Jordanian Dinar			0.708
Kuwait Dinar			0.28145
Lebanese Pound			1510
Libyan Dinar			1.2035
Moroccan Dirham			8.2107
Omani Riyal			0.38469
Qatar Riyal			3.6406
Saudi Riyal			3.7508
Syrian Pound			148.05
Tunisian Dinar			1.663
Yemeni Riyal			214.88
UAE Dirham			3.6729
Currencies are quoted against the US Dollar			

TREVO AUCTIONEERS

AUCTIONEERS, REPOSSESSORS AND COMMISSION AGENTS
Meru Road, off Moi Avenue Opp. Asha Trust Building P.O. Box 85000, code 80100
MOMBASA Telephone: 0722 719163

PUBLIC AUCTION

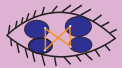
Duly instructed by our Principals the financiers, we shall sell the under mentioned repossessed motor vehicles by Public Auction on **Saturday 27th September 2014 at Corner Garage Mombasa commencing at 10.00 a.m.**

REG. NO.	MAKE	PLACE OF VIEWING
KBT 830D	MITSUBISHI FUSO TIPPER	CORNER GARAGE MSA
KBK 230A	SUZUKI	MUNN'S ENT. STORAGE MSA
KBK 351S	MITSUBISHI L200 - PICK UP	MUNN'S ENT. STORAGE MSA
KBV 381K	SCANIA PRIMER MOVER	CMC MOTORS MSA
ZE 3507	TRANSTRAILER - TRAILER	CMC MOTORS MSA

CONDITIONS OF SALE:

- All interested buyers are requested to view and verify the vehicles condition as the Auctioneers or their Principals do not warrant these. Viewing of the vehicles can be done during normal working hours by prior arrangements with the Auctioneers.
- The sale of the motor vehicles is subject to reserve prices.
- The purchasers of the vehicles will be liable for storage charges from the date of Auction till date of collection.
- Bidders shall make a refundable deposit of KShs. 50,000/= to obtain a bidding number.
- Cash or banker's Cheque at the fall of the hammer.

ALL ARE WELCOME



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NAIROBI & UPCOUNTRY

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A116 Marriage

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A123 Prayers / Retreat

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BEAUTIFUL Dancers 2 Nite @
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MISS Ngong Rd @ Club Caldino 3rd
Flr. China Centre Ngong Rd.

A230 Health

0723408602 Men's delay

0723408602 Men's desire

0723408602 Men's high stamina

0723408602 Men's size

0723408602 Reduce pot in Mombasa

0723408602 short time & failure

0724401749 Size, delay, hardrock 150/=

MENS big size & confidence 0726272266

MENS Instant hardrock 200 0726272266

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A258 Marriage & Family Counselling

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boost etc 0720006094

A279 Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

**The Physical Planning Act Cap 286
CHANGE OF USER.**

The owner of Plot No. Juja/10090/19
M/s Mary M. Thimba proposes to
change the user from **Agricultural**
to **Industrial** purposes subject to
the approval by County Government
of Kiambu. Any objections can be
forwarded within fourteen (14) days of
this notice to;

Juja Sub-County Administrator
P.O Box 1170, Thika

PUBLIC NOTICE

**PHYSICAL PLANNING ACT, CAP 286
PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER**

The owner of land Title No. LR.9071 located
at Kitale Airstrip area in Kitale Town, Trans
Nzoia County wishes to change the use of all
that parcel of land measuring **100 acres** from
private Residential purposes to **Commercial**
and **Agricultural** purposes. This subject
to the approval by the County Government
of Trans Nzoia. Individuals, Institutions or
organizations etc. with objections to the
proposal are requested to do so in writing
within 14 days of this notice to:

The County Secretary,
County Government of Trans Nzoia
P.O Box 4211-30200, Kitale.

PUBLIC NOTICE

**PHYSICAL PLANNING ACT, CAP 286
PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER**

The owner of land Title No. WAITALUK/
KAPKOI BLOCK 10/KAPKOI SISAL/400
Located in Kapkoi Sisal area in Trans Nzoia
County wishes to change the use of all that
parcel of land measuring **0.089 Ha** from
Agricultural to **Industrial**. This subject to
the approval by the County Government of Trans
Nzoia. Individuals, Institutions or organizations
etc. with objections to the proposal are
requested to do so in writing within 14 days
of this notice to:

The County Secretary,
County Government of Trans Nzoia
P.O Box 4211-30200, Kitale.

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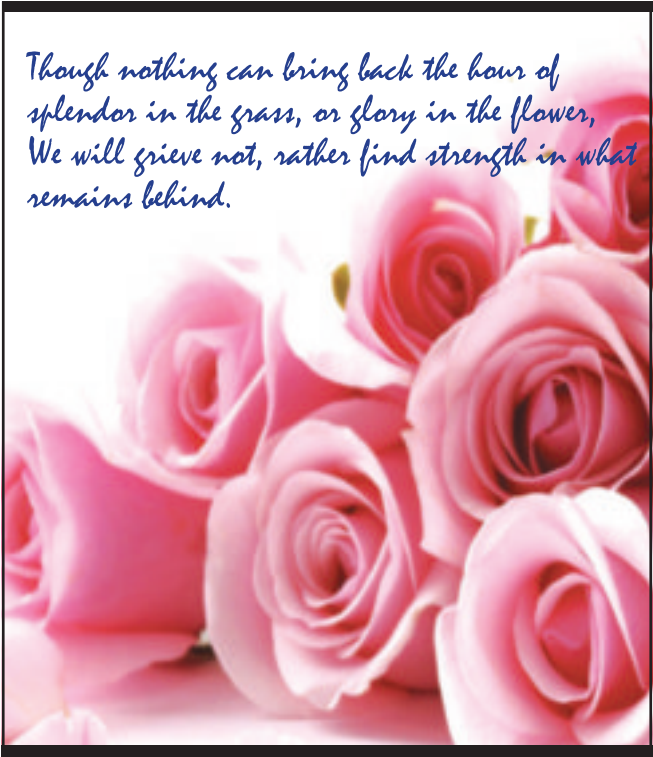
Ten years today you left us to be with our Lord.We loved you dearly and although we are apart, you left us memories we are proud to own.Your good and humble spirit lives forever in our hearts.

Fondly missed by your dear wife Grace Njoki, children, family and friends.

In God's hands you rest and in our hearts you live forever.



Daniel Mutero Githigi



I AM GETTING READY TO GO HOW AM I DOING IT? I'M LAYING ASIDE EVERY WEIGHT AND SIN THAT DOES SO EASILY BESET ME AND I'M GETTING LIGHT FOR THE FLIGHT.

WILLIE MAY FORD SMITH



Celebration of a life well lived



Dhan Kaur Jowhal
1919-2014

It is with profound grief and in humble acceptance of God's Will that we announce the demise of mata Dhan Kaur Jowhal, beloved wife of the late Sardar Bhan Singh Jowhal of Jowhal Insurance Brokers Limited who passed on peacefully in Nairobi on 17th September, 2014.

She was mother to Mrs. Bharpur Kaur Grewal (deceased). Satpal Singh Jowhal, Dr.Teipal Singh Jowhal (U.S.A.), Lakhmir Kaur Sidhu (U.K.) and Jagdish Singh Jowhal (U.K.). She leaves behind several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The cortege will leave the Nanaksar Gurudwara Sahib on Sunday 21st September, 2014 at 12.15pm for the Hindu Shamshan Bhumi Kariokor where cremation will take place at 1pm (at the incinerator).

Thereafter a prayer meeting will be held at the Nanaksar Gurudwara, Brookside Drive on Sunday 21st September, 2014 as per the programme.

i. Bhog Sri Akhand Path at 5.45pm
ii. Kirtan 5.45pm to 7.45pm

Thereafter Guru ka langar (dinner) will be served.All friends, relatives and well wishers are cordially invited to attend.

May the ALL MIGHTY GOD rest her soul in eternal peace.

Though you are gone, you will never be forgotten and will live in our hearts forever.

The Jowhal, Grewal, Sidhu, Bhangra and Lochab families.

WAHEGURU WAHEGURU WAHEGURU

Death Announcement



Bharpur Kaur Grewal

It is with profound grief that we announce the sad demise of Mrs. Bharpur Kaur Grewal, daughter of the late Mr. Bhan Singh Jowhal and now the late Mrs. Dhan Kaur jowhal on Thursday the 11th of September, 2014 Penang in Malaysia.

The Cremation took place in Penang on 13th September, 2014.

Beloved wife of Mr. Karmjit Singh Grewal (deceased) mother to Harjote Singh Grewal (deceased) Tarkul Sharma (Malaysia) and jotinder Kaur Saini (Australia) and sister to Satpal Singh Jowhal (Nairobi), Dr.Teipal Singh Jowhal (U.S.A.) Lakhmir Kaur Sidhu (U.K.) and Jagdish Singh Jowhal (U.K.). She leaves behind several grandchildren.

Prayer meeting will be held at the Nanaksar Gurudwara, Brookside Drive on Sunday 21st September, 2014 as per the programme.

i. Bhog Sri Sahaj Path at 5.45pm
ii. Kirtan 5.45pm to 7.45pm

Thereafter Guru ka langar (dinner) will be served.All friends, relatives and well wishers are cordially invited to attend.

May the ALL MIGHTY GOD rest her soul in eternal peace.

Though you are gone, you will never be forgotten and will live in our hearts forever.

The Jowhal, Grewal, Sidhu, Bhangra and Lochab families.

WAHEGURU WAHEGURU WAHEGURU

SATURDAY NATION Sport



ALONSO TOPS PRACTICE TIMES

Fernando Alonso ended Mercedes domination of opening practice yesterday when he topped the times for Ferrari in the first free session ahead of tomorrow's Singapore Grand Prix. It was the first time in seven races that any car other than a Mercedes had lapped quickest in the first action of the day.

BASKETBALL | Lions take to the court against Mennonites tomorrow

USIU set sights on top spot

Tigers need to beat Thunder, Equity at Nyayo to supplant Co-op Bank from the summit of men's league

BY CAXTON APOLLO
aayienga@yahoo.co.uk

Tigers of the USIU-A have set sights on the summit of the men's basketball Premier League this weekend as they play Thunder and Equity Bank at Nyayo Stadium Gymnasium.

Various matches are planned for Nyayo Stadium, Kakamega Police Canteen and Upper Hill High School in Nairobi.

Today, Tigers, who are second on the league standings with 36 points, take on Thunder before playing Equity Bank at the same venue tomorrow.

Victory for the students in the two matches will see them topple leaders and champions Co-operative Bank from the top of the standings with 41 points.

Co-op Bank, who will be idle this weekend, top the competition with 37 points after 18 wins and one loss.

Tigers routed KAA 67-43 last weekend and red-hot Abel Nson, Clifton Alela and Victor Bosire, who are in top form, are expected to play a leading role for the students.

Thunder are still struggling to win even after the return of coach Faustin Mgendi to their technical bench.

Thunder lost 66-45 to Co-op Bank last Saturday and after failing to honour their match against Nakuru Club, experienced shooter Nelson Njau and Derrick Juma will face an uphill task against Tigers.

Equity are eighth in the league with 31 points and will rely on Brian Obimbo and Ian Wachie against Tigers tomorrow. The top eight teams qualify for the post-season play-offs to determine the champions.

Elsewhere, having clawed winless Blazers 68-42 last weekend, Dennis Opiyo and veteran Ikapian Juma will lead Lions against KAA today at 4pm.



MARTIN MUKANGU | NATION
Joseph Ondinyo (left) of Co-op Bank tackles USIU's Yoni Mwambiro during last season's KBF men's Premier League match at Kasarani. USIU play Thunder at Nyayo today.

WEEKEND FIXTURES

Today: At Nyayo: Mennonites v Flames of USIU (9am), Mennonites v Pirates (10.30am), Blazers v Nakuru Club (12pm), Thunder v Tigers of USIU (2pm), Lions v KAA (4pm).

At Upper Hill: Umoja v Baraka Xtreme (9am), World Hope v ANU (10.30am), Upper Hill v Lakeside (2pm), Dankind Academy v Parklands Baptist (4pm).

At Kakamega Police Canteen: Western Delight v Oryx (9am), MKU Kakamega v Zetech University (10.30am), Western Delight v Strathmore (2pm).

Tomorrow: At Nyayo: Trailblazers v Parklands Baptist (9am), Flames of USIU v KCA-U (10.30am), Lions v Mennonites (12pm), Pirates v Blazers (2pm), Equity Bank v Tigers of USIU (4pm). At Upper Hill High: Baraka Xtreme v Lakeside (9am), ANU v Upper Hill (10.30am), JKUAT v Barclays Bank (12pm), World Hope v Little Prince (2pm).

Nakuru on high alert as battle with Police looms

BY BRIAN YONGA
@brianyongz
byonga@ke.nationmedia.com

Kenya Hockey Union (KHU) men's Premier League champions Kenya Police will be looking to get back to winning ways when they face newly-promoted Nakuru Sikh at the City Park Stadium this weekend.

Newcomers Nakuru will need to be at their best if they are to avoid a backlash from Police who were shocked 1-0 by Greensharks in their opening game last month.

The champions have no room for error as another slip-up will make their task of reaching the play-offs harder. Last season, Police won their first six matches on their march to the title.

They were frustrated by Greensharks in their first game after dominating possession but failing to score.

Police coach, Kenneth Kaunda, is confident his team will get their season's campaign back on track, insisting the team is under no pressure to perform.

High expectations

"We are the defending champions and everyone expects us to win, if we don't, it becomes an issue. We were disappointed after our first game but we are confident we shall recover and get our campaign back on track," Kaunda said.

The hosts will look up to talismanic striker Moses Cheplaiti for goals. The Kenyan international who missed the World league one series is eager to help his

team defend their crown. "We missed a lot of chances against Sharks and we want to atone for that against Nakuru. It will be a big game because Nakuru will want to stop us but we

“Police are beatable. We are capable of hurting them if we remain disciplined”

Tony Agesa, Nakuru Sikh coach

shall triumph," Cheplaiti said.

Nakuru Sikh are back to the topflight after three seasons out. They have found the going tough, losing their opening game 2-0 to USIU. The team is also missing a number of key players who secured its promotion.

"Police are beatable. We are capable of hurting them if we remain disciplined and play according to plan. They are a professional club but tend to overplay which is their undoing," Tony Agesa, Nakuru Sikh coach, said.

WEEKEND FIXTURES:

Today: Men: Multimedia V JKUAT (2pm, City Park); MKU v Thika Rovers (4pm, City Park), Kenyatta v Technical (6pm, City Park), Wazalendo v MSC (4pm, MSA)

Tomorrow: Men: Kenyatta v UON (9am, City Park), Strathmore v Multimedia (women) (11am, City Park), Kenya Police v Nakuru Sikh (1pm, City Park), Greensharks v USIU (3pm, City Park), Strathmore v KCAU (5pm, City Park), Wazalendo v Mvita (10am, MSA).

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Chebet for Menengai Half Marathon race

BY AYUMBA AYODI
sayodi@ke.nationmedia.com

Two-time World Cross Country champion Emily Chebet is the latest elite athlete to enlist for tomorrow's Menengai Geothermal Half Marathon in Nakuru.

The men's field has also attracted 2013 Paris Marathon champion Kimeli Some, Sammy Kipkorir and Nicholas Togom who will challenge Matthew Kisorio in men's 21km race.

Winners will pocket Sh300,000 in prize money. The top 20 athletes in each category will win prizes. The 28-year-old Chebet, winner of the 2010 and

2013 World Cross, is fresh from winning bronze in 10,000m at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

Kilel to compete

Chebet will face Commonwealth Games silver medallist Caroline Kilel and the 2011 Boston Marathon champion Philis Ongori in the women's category of the event sponsored by Geothermal Development Company.

Ongori, the 2009 IAAF World Half Marathon Championship silver medalist, will be making a comeback from injury that saw her miss the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Ongori made her full marathon debut in 2011 winning the Rotterdam Marathon. She holds a personal best of 1:07:38 in the half marathon.

Interestingly, Ongori and Kilel were in Kenya's team for the 2009 IAAF World Half Marathon Championship in Birmingham, England.

Ongori settled for silver in

a personal best 1:07:38 behind Mary Keitany, who set a championship record time of 1:06:36 with Kilel, the 2013 Frankfurt Marathon winner, coming home fourth, also in PB 1:08:16 to gift Kenya team title.

It will be pulsating to see how the men's battle unfolds. Kisorio, Team Kenya captain for the 2009 World Cross Country Championships, is on a comeback bid after completing a two-year doping ban in July. He won the UAP Ndakaini Half Marathon last week, just a week after claiming the Safaricom Jaramogi Oginga Odinga 15km Road race in Bondo on his return.

28

Age of Emily Chebet who will race in tomorrow's Menengai Geothermal Half Marathon race

'Asian Tigress' Li Na retires from tennis over knee injuries at 32

Wuhan, China

China's Li Na announced her retirement at the age of 32 over persistent knee injuries yesterday, prompting a wave of adulation for Asia's greatest and most influential tennis player.

Li, the first Asian national to win a Grand Slam singles title, said "my body is begging me to stop the pounding" as she ended a career that brought her nine titles and introduced tennis to the masses in China.

"As a professional tennis player, it is the best decision for me to leave the field," Li posted on her Sina Weibo microblog, adding that



injuries have "for a long time prevented me playing as I had before".

"I've achieved far more than I'd dreamed for, and it is my biggest pride to have won glory for the country," she wrote. The announcement comes just seven months after Li lifted the Australian Open title, one of her career highlights following her French Open win of 2011.

Roy



Gachuhi

Roy Gachuhi, a former Nation Media Group sports reporter,
writes for The Content House. @contenthouseKE

Robert Wangila: Tragedy of Olympian who spoke quietly and punched hard

Wangila was a quiet man whose most eloquent speech was made in the ring with his fists, especially the right one. He littered the canvas with many opponents using it, but he was never known to look for a fight in the streets. That was for thugs and this was no thug

In life Robert Wangila endured a deprived upbringing and calmly navigated the crime-prone gangland streets of Jericho and Muthurwa to join the elite league of athletes who hold aloft the bouquet of flowers reserved for Olympic victors.

His death in the ring stunned the country and sparked a legal duel over his last resting place that brought a constellation of lawyers that would have put last year's presidential election dispute in the shade.

It is 15 years since he died and this September, he would have been 47. Long after the final chants of Salat al-Janaza, the Islamic prayer for the dead, his friends in Kenya's depressed boxing fraternity continue to remember him. It is obvious they will do this to the ends of their own lives.

They still have a photo of him in the place of his career birth, the run-down gymnasium of Dallas Muthurwa Social Hall, or whatever remains of it. The hall has long been a target of wheeler-dealer fly-by-night businessmen who have always wanted to sell it and deprive Wangila's successors a place they could train in.

The hazy colour photo taken during the 1982 Kecoso Games in Nyeri shows Wangila, resplendent in the fashion of the day – bell bottom trousers – in the company of the man who introduced him to Dallas, Aloise “Les Les” Muiruri. The other boxers in the photo are George Findo and Morgan Oduor, nicknamed “Ma-steam”.

Extra-ordinarily committed

Muiruri, a veteran of the once fabled Hit Squad, was Wangila's bosom buddy and he must have been the happiest man in the world when his friend took that gold in Seoul via knockout. But he has fallen on extremely hard times.

Wangila was a quiet man whose most eloquent speech was made in the ring with his fists, especially the right one. He littered the canvas with many opponents using it, but he was never known to look for a fight in the streets. That was for thugs and this was no thug. He kept away from street fights. He always wore a faraway look, the look of a preoccupied man. When he won, he smiled, but there was a distinct look of sadness in the smile. He was extra-ordinarily committed to training and when the sessions, to which he gave every last ounce of energy, ended, he departed quietly, usually alone. He liked his own company.

Charles Mukula, the boxing coach who has made a superhuman effort to save Muthurwa Social Hall from its predators and who once upon a time shared time with Wangila, remembers him thus:

“He was a quiet and humble man. He liked keeping to himself. He trained hard. He was an awkward fighter, by which I mean you couldn't figure him out. You could never get in the ring saying Wangila fights like

this. He would surprise you. He was good at reading his opponent and adjusting accordingly. And he had a deadly right hand, which he depended on heavily. If you look at his record, you will see many knockouts. They usually came from it.”

Indeed. The Olympic gold was won that way.

“He was also not a woman's man. We knew him to have only one steady girl friend, the one he eventually took with him to the US. He was a disciplined man.”

After cutting his boxing teeth in Muthurwa during which time he turned out for Kenya Railways Boxing Club, Wangila moved to Kenya Ports Authority, another Kecoso member. It is there that, as Kenya Open champion, he caught the eye of scouts from Kenya Breweries. In the 1980s, Kenya Breweries ran a robust sports programme with no less than 11 sports in their portfolio. All had the full financial backing of the company.

Breweries offered Wangila a job as a truck driver in keeping with his humble educational qualifications. He never let the company down and the 1987 Kenya, East and Central and Central Africa and All Africa Games champion proceeded to win Africa's first Olympic Games gold medal in

The fortunes of Kenya's best professional fighters abroad have never been rosy. Waruinge didn't hack it in Japan and neither did Muchoki in Denmark. That fate would stalk Wangila in America

1988. He was the hottest name in Kenya boxing at that time.

Olympic champions attract world attention as a matter of course and Wangila would be no exception. An American by the name Akhbar Mohammed happened on the scene and the next thing Kenyans knew, Wangila had turned professional. He departed for the US, taking with him Grace Akinyi, his long time sweetheart.

The fortunes of Kenya's best professional fighters abroad have never been rosy. Philip Waruinge didn't hack it in Japan and neither did Stephen Muchoki in Denmark. That fate would stalk Wangila in America. There were reports, as yet unverified, that the boxer was suffering bouts of homesickness and wanted out.

But it has remained difficult to establish his exact intentions and state of mind before his tragic last fight against David Gonzales on July 21, 1994 in which the referee stopped the contest to save him further punishment. Wangila went to the dressing, on his own strength, but shortly afterwards, lapsed into a coma from which he would never wake. He died three days later. Akhbar Mohammed stood by his dead fighter and arranged to have his remains freighted to Nairobi.



Grace Akinyi (centre) the wife of Olympic boxing gold medalist Robert Wangila with daughter Zina (left) and son Farouk and family friends in this photo dated August 1994. Top: Wangila in one of his professional bouts.

And there, Wangila's last fight, this time over his cold body, began.

Soon after the body arrived in Nairobi, Wangila's young widow, Grace Akinyi, started making arrangements for the funeral. But she was soon slapped with two separate injunctions from the High Court stopping her from burying him as stated in his will. Claims were made that Akinyi and Wangila had divorced in May, 1992, and that she had since remarried twice. Wangila's feisty mother, an old lady by the name of Eunice Moraa Mabeche, paraded two men,

one John Mabeche, whom she told the media was Wangila's father and Karani Ang'ira Kanyimbo, who claimed to be Wangila's biological father but whom Moraa said was also her husband though not Wangila's father. She wanted Wangila buried in Kisii, his ancestral home as she claimed. Moraa's lead lawyer was Charles Nyachae, the current chairman of the Constitution Implementation Commission and included Mr Paul Buti, Mr Patrick Kiage and Mr Abel

Dramatis Personae

Main Character

Robert Wangila

Born: September, 1967 – Nairobi, Kenya.

Died: July 1994 – Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

Weight: Welterweight

Local clubs

■ Dallas Muthurwa, his “boxing birthplace”, introduced here by best friend and neighbourhood street buddy, Aloise “Les Les” Muiruri, a Hit Squad legend.

■ Kenya Railways

■ Kenya Ports Authority

■ Kenya Breweries

Amateur record

1988 Olympic Gold Medalist

1987 All Africa Games Gold Medalist

1985-87 East and Central African champion

Professional record

Wins – 22

Losses – 5

Supporting Cast

Widow

■ Ms Grace Akinyi

Mother

■ Ms Eunice Mabeche Moraa

Men who claimed to be Wangila's father

■ John Mabeche – supported by Ms Moraa

■ Karani Ang'ira Kanyimbo – claimed to be Wangila's biological father. Ms Moraa said he was also her husband. She enthusiastically posed for press pictures with both men.

Wangila's national burial committee members

■ Peter Orwa – Local boxing promoter and committee chairman

■ Dr Willy Mutunga – Executor of Wangila's will. Current Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya

■ Memba Muriuki – Lawyer and boxing enthusiast

■ Dr Julia Ojiambo – Former Cabinet Minister in President Moi's government

Wangila's US promoter

■ Akhbar Mohammed

High Court Judge hearing the case

■ Justice Andrew Hayanga

Litigants and their lawyers

■ **Lawyers for widow Grace Akinyi:** Murtaza Jaffer of the Public Law Institute, Abida Ali, Swaleh Kanyeki, Memba Muriuki, Ms Nancy Baraza, former Deputy Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya under Dr Mutunga, Ms Grace Githu and Ms Betty Mwenesi.

■ **Busia claimants:** John Nandike Bwire, Washington Wafula and David Wandera. Their lawyer – Dr John Khaminwa, senior counsel.

■ **Kisii claimants:** Ms Moraa, Mabeche and Kanyimbo. Their lawyers – Paul Buti, Patrick Kiage and Abel Ongenge.

■ **Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (Supkem),** named as a defendant enjoined with Ahmed Khalif Mohammed, an Assistant Minister for Research, Technical Training, Science and Technology, Sheikh Muhammed Ali Shee, Imam of Jamia Mosque, Issa Kuria and Sharif Hussein Omar, executive committee members of Supkem. Lawyer for Supkem – Ahmednasir Abdullahi, former Law of Society of Kenya chairman and member of the Judicial Service Commission.

■ **Lawyer for Dr Mutunga, Executor of Wangila's will** – Ms Betty Murungi, former vice-chair of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission.

The Problem

Wangila dies in the US as a result of injuries sustained in the ring. Akhbar Mohammed freights his remains to Kenya and demands a US \$ 25,000 refund from widow Grace Akinyi and the burial committee which they dispute. Akinyi wants to bury her husband but is judicially restrained by Moraa, Mabeche and Kanyimbo who want him buried in Kisii and by Bwire, Wafula and Wandera who want him buried in Busia while Supkem wants Wangila buried as a Muslim, saying he converted to Islam while in the US. Marathon hearings take place before Justice Hayanga.

The Ruling

Justice Hayanga rules that neither the Kisii nor the Busia claimants should bury Wangila. He is buried in Nairobi in accordance with Islamic traditions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 49

Memories of the nation's last great boxer linger on

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 48

Ogenche. Justice Andrew Hayanga granted them a temporary injunction restraining Akinyi from burying the body.

Later on the morning of the same day, three men from Busia filed a similar injunction to stop the burial. They were John Nandike Bwire, Washington Wafula and David Wandera, represented by lawyer John Khaminwa.

Their plaint was filed against Moraa and her men and against Mr. Peter Orwa, the chairman of the burial committee. They said Wangila's ancestral home was Busia and wanted him buried there. Justice Hayanga consolidated the two cases.

Next on the scene was the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (Supkem). They wanted Wangila, who was said to have converted to Islam while in the US, to be buried in accordance with Islamic customs – and as quickly as possible. Hayanga ordered them enjoined as defendants. Supkem's litigants included Mr Ahmed Khalif Mohammed, an Assistant Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology, Sheikh Mohammed Ali Shee, the Imam of Nairobi's Jamia Mosque and two Supkem executive members, Mr. Issa Kuria and Mr. Sharif Hussein Omar. Their lawyer was Ahmednasir Abdullahi.

Willy Mutunga, the current Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, was the executor of Wangila's will. He was also a member of Wangila's national burial committee. His lawyer was Ms Betty Murungi, the former vice-chair of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission.

Akbar Muhammed weighed into the proceedings. He wanted a refund of the US\$ 25,000 he had spent freighting Wangila's remains from the US to Kenya. His claim was directed at Akinyi and the Wangila national burial committee.

Apart from Mutunga and Orwa, other members of that committee included Dr Julia Ojiambo, a former cabinet minister, and Memba Muriuki, a lawyer and boxing enthusiast.

Akinyi herself was well represented. Her lead counsel was Murtaza Jaffer of the Public Law Institute assisted by Nancy Baraza, the former Deputy Chief Justice under Mutunga, Ms Abida Ali, Mr Swaleh Kanyeke, Memba Muriuki himself, Ms Grace Githu and Ms Betty Mwenesi.

The arguments came hard, fast and furious. Mr Jaffer, for the widow, asked the court to "advise" the plaintiffs to withdraw their suits. He told the Judge: "The Kisii claimants

are technically out of these proceedings because they have not been named in the will at all. The Busia claimants, though acknowledging that Wangila was a Muslim, cannot bury him in Sio Port, Busia District because it is the widow's responsibility. They can only negotiate with the widow."

Dr Khaminwa, for the Busia claimants, responded that there was enough evidence that Wangila's father came from Busia. Wangila's names, he said, spoke for themselves. He dismissed the Kisii claimants' right to claim the body. Then he lavished praise on Wangila for being the embodiment of a "true Kenyan" – having a Kisii mother, a Luhya father and a Luo wife.

Ruled out of order

Buti lay in wait. On the second day of the case, he dropped his bombshell. He told the court that he would provide evidence to prove that Wangila had divorced Akinyi in May 1992 and that she had since remarried twice – once to a Mr Keith Green and then to a Mr Walter Mungai.

Justice Hayanga ruled him out of order, cautioning him against introducing "extraneous matters inappropriately." Jaffer and Khaminwa had strenuously raised objections to his "proof" of her remarriage by way of a letter from the US.

All this time, Akinyi, who was the centre of gawking attention from the crowd, maintained a stoic, studious silence. She always stood next to the courtroom door and as soon as the proceedings ended, she dashed out and disappeared in a car before journalists could reach her for comments. In sharp contrast, her nemesis, Ms Moraa, courted the media and freely posed for pictures with the two men in her life. She was readily available to give interviews.

The verdict

The courtroom was always packed to overflow and despite repeated admonitions from the judge to reserve the front bench for the lawyers, quite a number of the large battery of counsel found themselves addressing the court from the public benches. Khaminwa was one of them.

In the end, Justice Hayanga ruled neither for the Busia nor for the Kisii claimants to Wangila's remains. He ordered the body buried in accordance Muslim rites, a victory for Supkem. The road to Kariokor Muslim cemetery was lined with crowds craning their necks to catch a glimpse of the last journey of the Olympic champion. Boxers walked ahead of the cortege, shadow boxing with the air.

It was well that Wangila could finally be laid to rest after a life of so many struggles marked by calm faith and austere discipline. The fight over his body was a great indignity but it is common in the country of his birth. It will be 30 years to the next Olympics in Rio de Janeiro in 2016. And nobody has replicated Robert Wangila's achievement.

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KENYAN PREMIER LEAGUE | Leaders Gor Mahia host Chemelil at City today

Stars rally to hold Tusker



CHRIS OMOLLO | NATION
Nairobi City Stars' Ray Omondi (second left) celebrates his goal with team mates during a KPL match against Tusker yesterday at Ruaraka. They drew 1-1.



CHRIS OMOLLO | NATION
Sony Sugar's Eugene Ochieng' dribbles past KRA's Joseph Mulume during their league match at Ruaraka grounds yesterday. Sony Sugar won 1-0.

Omondi snatches a point for Ofwuoku's men as brewers squander chance to got top of the table

BY CELLESTINE OILO
colilo@ke.nationmedia.com

Goalkeeper Fredrick Majani stood out for relegation-threatened City Stars as they forced a 1-1 draw with Tusker FC yesterday at the Ruaraka grounds.

Second-half substitute Ray Omondi cancelled out Khalid Aucho's first-half goal to give the visitors a point against the brewers who squandered a chance to supplant Gor Mahia at the top of the standings.

Aucho had given the brewers the lead in the 25th minute after Majani had been drawn out of his line to keep out a shot from Kevin Kimani. City Stars, coached by Robinson Ofwuoku, however drew level eight minutes to stoppage time after Omondi easily turned in Oscar Mbugua's cross.

"We deserved three points from this match because the boys played very well. This win will give us confidence as we face our next opponents," said Ofwuoku.

In an earlier match at the same venue, Sony Sugar edged out a stubborn KRA side 1-0. Kennedy Oduor gifted the sugar millers the winner in the 40th minute to enable them climb to eighth place on the table. "We came here to collect the three points and I am happy that the boys managed to do that," coach Zedekiah Otieno

1-0

Sony Sugar's victory over KRA in the Kenyan Premier League yesterday

said after the match.

Meanwhile, after two matches at the helm of Gor Mahia, coach Frank Nuttall has admitted that the final stretch of the Kenyan Premier League title race will not be smooth sailing as the top teams jostle for the ultimate prize.

K'Ogalo have drawn their last two matches under the Briton, but have a chance to consolidate their place on top of the summit this afternoon when they host Chemelil Sugar at City Stadium in Nairobi. "The coming matches will be real tough because all the teams are doing their best to excel. But with eight matches remaining we will try to win each one of them and hope that our rivals drop points along the way," Nuttall told *Daily Nation Sport* after the barren draw with Ulinzi Stars on Wednesday.

K'Ogalo will welcome back central defender David 'Calabar' Owino, who was suspended for the Ulinzi match while Dan Sserunkuma will partner with Timothy Otieno upfront. Chemelil Sugar will come into the match seeking to avenge the 1-0 home loss they suffered against K'Ogalo in the first leg encounter.

"Gor defeated us in the first leg but we will be going for an outright victory against them," coach Mike Mururi said.

In Mumias, AFC Leopards will be in action against a rejuvenated KCB. Ingwe, who lost their last match 2-1 to Western Stima last weekend, will be looking to restore some pride by taking all three points from the bankers.

WEEKEND FIXTURES	
Today: Gor Mahia v Chemelil Sugar (City-3pm), AFC Leopards v KCB (Mumias-3pm), Bandari v Western Stima (Mombasa-3pm)	
Tomorrow: Thika United v Mathare United (Thika-3pm), Sofapaka v Muhoroni Youth (Machakos-3pm), Ulinzi Stars v Top Fry (Afraha-2pm)	

Zambians use Victoria Falls ‘bait’ in Afcon bid



2012 champions Zambia proposed six venues for the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations including Livingstone, a town that overlooks the Victoria Falls, one of the seven wonders of the world.

Cairo

Matches played against a backdrop of the spectacular Victoria Falls waterfall is part of the package Zambia are offering to stage the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations (Afcon).

Algeria, Cameroon, Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire also want to host the 2019 tournament and Algeria, Guinea and Ivory Coast are contenders for the 2021 championship.

The Confederation of African Football (Caf) executive committee led by president Issa Hayatou from Cameroon will vote Saturday in Ethiopia to decide the two hosts.

Each of the 14 members has one vote and the first country to receive at least eight votes wins.

Should several rounds be necessary, the country with the fewest votes after each round drops out.

The two winning nations are to be announced during a ceremony at the African Union (AU) headquarters in Addis Ababa. Algeria (1990), Cameroon (1972) and Ivory Coast (1984) are former hosts of the biennial African football showpiece.

Zambia were awarded the 1988 tournament only to be replaced by Morocco because they lacked the required funds.

Guinea have never hosted the Cup of Nations, a competition first staged 57 years ago in Sudanese capital

Khartoum. What began as a three-team tournament has grown into a three-week, 16-nation, 32-fixtured football spectacle with a global TV audience.

Zambia proposed six venues including Livingstone, a town that overlooks the Victoria Falls, one of the seven wonders of the world.

Scottish missionary and explorer David Livingstone in the mid-19th century is believed to have been the first European to see the Falls on the Zambezi river, which divides Zambia and Zimbabwe.

A ground beside the Falls would challenge Cape Town Stadium, a 2010 World Cup venue lying in the shadow of Table Mountain, as the African football venue with the most spectacular backdrop.

Each country will make a 30-minute, eve-of-vote presentation and the executive committee also have a report on each candidate to help them decide. Ethiopia were the last east African hosts in 1976. (AFP)

THE CANDIDATES

Algeria

Bids: 2019 or 2021. **Hosts:** 1990

Proposed venues: Algiers, Annaba, Blida, Oran.

Showpiece stadium: Stade 5 Juillet, Algiers (capacity: 70,000)

Cameroon

Bid: 2019 only. **Hosts:** 1972

Proposed venues: Bafoussam, Douala, Garoua, Limbe-Buea, Yaounde.

Showpiece stadium: Stade Ahmadou Ahidjo, Yaounde (38,000)

Guinea

Bids: 2019 or 2021. **Hosts:** Never staged Cup of Nations

Proposed venues: Conakry, Kankan, Labe, Nzerekore.

Showpiece stadium: Stade Nongo, Conakry (50,000)

Cote d'Ivoire

Bids: 2019 or 2021. **Hosts:** 1984

Proposed venues: Abidjan, Bouake, Korhogo, San Pedro.

Showpiece stadium: Stade Felix Houphouet-Boigny, Abidjan (45,000)

Zambia

Bid: 2019 only. **Hosts:** Awarded 1988 tournament only to withdraw for financial reasons

Proposed venues: Chililabombwe, Chingola, Kitwe, Livingstone, Lusaka, Ndola.

Showpiece stadium: National Heroes Stadium, Lusaka (50,000)

HIGH STAKES | Diego is not at his best, but he will start the game, says manager

7pm

West Ham vs Liverpool



Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers insists he has no concerns over Philippe Coutinho's ability to handle the physical side of the Premier League ahead of his team's clash with West Ham today.

Coutinho was given some rough treatment in Liverpool's 1-0 defeat to Aston Villa at An-

field last weekend which appeared to knock him off his game. But Rodgers claimed the diminutive Brazilian playmaker can deal with that aspect of the game ahead of another potentially tough afternoon against the Ham-mers at Upton Park.

"I don't think it's a question now if he can

Chelsea's toughest test yet

Mourinho vows to play Costa despite striker's hamstring problem

London

Diego Costa will face Manchester City tomorrow despite Jose Mourinho admitting the Chelsea striker needs rest to clear up a hamstring problem.

Mourinho revealed this week the forward started Wednesday's Champions League clash with Schalke on the bench because Costa's condition means he is unable to play more than once a week.

But the striker — who suffered the injury during the recent international break with Spain — will return to the starting line-up at the Etihad Stadium as Chelsea seek to extend their perfect start to the Premier League season with a fifth successive win.

Costa has scored seven goals in four Premier League games following his \$53.1 million pre-season move from Atletico Madrid, highlighting why Chelsea manager Mourinho is so keen for the forward to start against City. Mourinho, though, conceded Costa's starting appearance against Premier League champions will mean he is unable to face Bolton in next week's League Cup clash.

"Diego is not in the best conditions, but he will start the game," Mourinho told reporters at Chelsea's Cobham training ground, south of London, on Friday. "He plays this game, he cannot play against Bolton. It's as simple as that."

Reunion with Lampard

When asked if the player would benefit from two weeks complete rest, Portuguese boss Mourinho added: "Yes." Mourinho explained Chelsea will have to manage the striker's condition carefully.

"The player is amazing, his attitude is amazing. Clearly, we have to try and protect him until he gets completely fit.

"He plays Sunday, doesn't play against Bolton. He plays against Aston Villa on Saturday. At this moment, decision made. Let's see his evolution and let's hope he goes in the right direction and becomes available to play every game."

Mourinho and his players face the prospect of a reunion this weekend with Frank Lampard, who unexpectedly joined City on loan from New York City before the start of the

season. Lampard agreed terms with the United States club after leaving Chelsea as a free agent at the end of last season following a 13-year stay at Stamford Bridge before making a temporary switch to City ahead of the 2015 Major League Soccer season.

Mourinho said he never expected to face Lampard in these circumstances after the 36-year-old midfielder left Chelsea.

"It's football. If you'd said that four or five years ago, I would have said it was strange," said Mourinho.

"Even a few months ago, when he signed for the New York team, I was not expecting this. But it was his decision. It's life. "When he left for New York, I thought he was going there. But it's his life, his decision, and he has my respect for that."

Last season, Mourinho played down Chelsea's strengths in comparison to City after beating Manuel Pellegrini's side in the corresponding fixture in February. (AFP)

PHOTO | FILE
Chelsea striker Diego Costa celebrates scoring in a past league match. Chelsea face City away tomorrow.



EUROPEAN FIXTURES

ITALY

Today

Cesena v Empoli (7pm), Milan v Juventus (9.45pm)

Tomorrow

Chievo v Parma (1.30pm), Genoa v Lazio, Roma v Cagliari, Sassuolo v Sampdoria (4pm), Atalanta v Fiorentina, Udinese v Napoli (7pm), Palermo v Inter, Torino v Verona (9.45pm)

FRANCE

Kick-off 9pm unless stated

Today

Marseille v Rennes (6pm), Lorient v Reims, Metz v SC Bastia, Nantes v Nice, Toulouse v Caen

Tomorrow

Lille v Montpellier (3pm), Lens v Saint-Etienne, Monaco v Guingamp (both 6pm), Paris Saint-Germain v Lyon (10pm)

EUROPEAN FIXTURES

SPAIN

Today

Deportivo la Coruna v Real Madrid (5pm), Athletic Bilbao v Granada (7pm), Atletico v Celta Vigo (9pm), Espanyol v Malaga (11pm)

Tomorrow

Sociedad v Almeria (1pm), Villarreal v Rayo Vallecano (6pm), Cordoba v Sevilla (8pm), Levante v Barcelona (10pm)

Monday: Getafe v Valencia (9.45pm)

GERMANY

Today

Schalke v Eintracht Frankfurt
Augsburg v Werder Bremen
VfB Stuttgart v Hoffenheim
Hamburg v Bayern Munich

SC Paderborn v Hanover

Mainz v Borussia Dortmund

Tomorrow

Wolfsburg v Leverkusen
Cologne v M'gladbach



WENGER'S HEADACHE | Gunners' defensive weaknesses have been exposed



cope with the demands of the Premier League," Rodgers said. "He's been here 18 months and has been absolutely brilliant. You only need to measure him since he's been in and look at the big games where he's been absolutely brilliant. "But there's no doubt

he has the pace, power and strength for the Premier League. "I've got no qualms about him; he's a big, big talent. He has lit up the Premier League since he came to the club. "He's going to have some games where he won't be at his best, but he always gives his best and that's all I

ever ask of the players.

"The kid is a great boy who wants to do well. He's very conscious that I have absolutely no doubts about him." Liverpool are boosted by the return of centre-back Martin Skrtel after a knee injury, while right-back Glen Johnson is also set to

as hungry City lie in wait

Arsenal aim to get season back on track against Aston Villa after a difficult week



London

Arsene Wenger will attempt to get Arsenal back on track against Aston Villa yesterday after a frustrating week that raised questions about their chances of winning major silverware this season.

Wenger's side travel to Villa Park to face a Villa side who lie second in the Premier League with three wins from four matches following last weekend's surprise victory at Liverpool.

If they are to leave with three points, Arsenal will have to quickly shake off the disappointment of the 2-0 Champions League defeat at Borussia Dortmund that came three days after the Gunners had squandered a winning position in a 2-2 draw against Manchester City in the Premier League.

Arsenal's defensive weaknesses were exposed on both occasions, once again throwing focus on Wenger's failure to bring in a centre-back and defensive midfielder during the most recent transfer

Arsenal midfielder Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain reacts after their 2-0 loss to Borussia Dortmund in their first leg Uefa Champions League Group D match in Dortmund on Tuesday night.

PHOTO | AFP

window. The Dortmund defeat was the Gunners' first of the campaign — although they have won just two of their seven competitive matches — and the manner of the loss gave cause for concern.

Jack Wilshere conceded that the last two games had once again highlighted Arsenal's failure to succeed at the highest level and questioned whether they had adopted the right approach against the German side.

Wilshere picked up an ankle injury during the game to add to Wenger's worries although the manager has not given up hope of the England midfielder recovering in time to face Villa. "It's difficult to say how bad it is. Normally it would be not too bad but I am a bit cautious because of his history (of ankle problems)," Wenger said.

The arrival of Danny Welbeck from Manchester United last week has failed to provide an immediate lift with the England forward guilty of missing good chances in both his appearances.

And the performance of Mesut Ozil was again placed under scrutiny after a largely ineffectual display by the Germany midfielder.

But the continuing good form of Aaron Ramsey has provided a bright spot and the midfielder, 23, claims his displays reflect his growing maturity. "Now I feel like I am as mature as I can be," Ramsey said. "I've got a lot more responsibility and I've become used to that and it feels good. "I just want to improve on last season and try to become the best player I can possibly be.

"I'm confident I can improve and have many more of those wonderful moments. "I'm really excited with the way things are developing and about what the future holds." Aston Villa manager Paul Lambert is eager to sort new deals for Fabian Delph and Ron Vlaar, whose contracts both expire next year. (AFP)

Wembley to host 2020 European football final



PHOTO | FILE

An England fan gestures in a past match at Wembley Stadium in London. Wembley will host the 2020 European final.

Geneva

London's Wembley Stadium will host the final and semi-finals of the 2020 European football championship, which will exceptionally be held in 13 different countries, Uefa boss Michel Platini announced yesterday.

The quarter-finals will meanwhile be hosted by Munich (Germany), Baku (Azerbaijan), Saint Petersburg (Russia) and Rome (Italy), the president of European football's governing body revealed at a ceremony in Geneva, Switzerland.

London beat its sole rival Munich for the top bid, as observers expected.

Ahead of the vote, top German football officials had hinted they might leave the path free to England if in return London supports its bid to host the tournament in 2024, when it returns to the single-host format.

For the 60th anniversary of the European Championship, first held in 1960, Uefa decided to organise the tournament across the whole continent.

In all 19 countries bid for a chance to host Euro 2020 games.

On top of one quarter-final, Rome, Munich, Baku and St Petersburg will each host three group stage games. Only hosts that had stadia with a capacity of 60,000 were considered.

Copenhagen (Denmark), Bucharest (Romania), Amsterdam (Netherlands), Dublin (Ireland), Bilbao (Spain), Budapest (Hungary), Brussels (Belgium) and Glasgow (Scotland), meanwhile, will each host one last-16 game and three group stage ones.

London, Munich, Rome, Brussels or Glasgow are experienced hosts of a major

sporting events, having already hosted World Cup, Euro or Champion League games.

But this is the first time cities like Baku, Budapest or Bucharest will host a big tournament.

The stadia in Budapest and Baku for the Euro 2020 are still waiting to be built.

For this jubilee tournament, Uefa said it wanted a "Euro for Europe."

"This is a historic moment because we'll be able to bring this competition to all the countries of Europe and especially to countries that would never otherwise have the chance to host such a competition," Platini said as he announced the winning bids.

In the past, a single country — or at the most two, like Austria and Switzerland in 2008, or Poland and Ukraine in 2012 — hosted the finals.

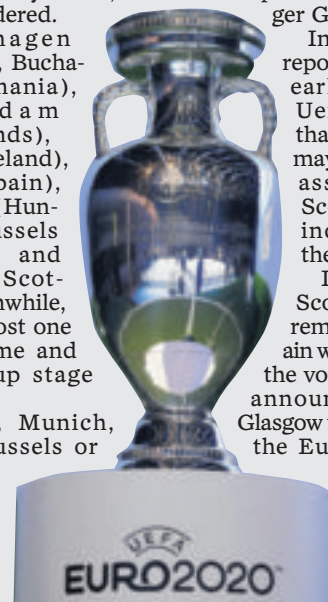
The experiment, which was Platini's brainchild, will be a one-off event however, with the 2024 tournament to be hosted again by a single country.

Minsk (Belarus), Sofia (Bulgaria), Cardiff (Wales), Skopje (Macedonia), Jerusalem (Israel) and Stockholm (Sweden) came away empty-handed.

There were also concerns ahead of the vote that Thursday's referendum on Scottish independence may endanger Glasgow's bid.

In its evaluation report published in early September, Uefa had noted that "the situation may have to be reassessed should Scotland become independent of the UK."

In the end, Scotland voted to remain part of Britain with 55 percent of the vote, and Platini's announcement that Glasgow would be among the Euro 2020 hosts was greeted with cheers in Geneva. (AFP)



Champions welcome Blues at Etihad Stadium

Continued from Back Page

concede the way we did, from a counter-attack from our own corner," Terry told the club website.

"It was our corner, we were attacking, and we got caught on the break. It shouldn't happen. It's the second time already this season it's happened."

City will restore Sergio Aguero to their starting XI and seven-goal top scorer Diego Costa will return for Chelsea after the two players started their respective sides' Champions League openers on the bench. Arsenal also

endured punishment at German hands in the Champions League, losing 2-0 at Borussia Dortmund, and have drawn their last three games in the league.

Climbed to second place

Today Arsene Wenger's side visit Aston Villa, who climbed to second place in the league table with an impressive 1-0 victory at Liverpool in their last game.

Liverpool survived a scare in the Champions League, winning 2-1 at home to Bulgarian newcomers Ludogorets Razgrad thanks to a 93rd-minute penalty by captain Steven Gerrard.

With Daniel Sturridge sidelined by injury, Liverpool have been labouring in front of goal, but ahead of Saturday's trip to West Ham United, manager Brendan Rodgers has urged their fans to show patience. "I remember this time last year I was asked if we were going to score enough goals and we ended up with 101 (league) goals," he told a press conference on Thursday.

"We've had to bring in a lot of new players because of the demands of the Champions League so that naturally takes time and we've got players adapting to a new country." (AFP)



REMEMBERING THE LEGEND
Robert Wangila was a quiet man whose most eloquent speech was made in the ring with his fists, writes **Roy Gachuhi**. P.48



SPORT INSIDE

BASKETBALL

USIU SET SIGHTS ON LEAGUE TOP SPOT

Tigers need to beat Thunder, Equity to topple Co-op Bank in league. P. 46



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Manchester City vs Chelsea (6pm tomorrow, Etihad Stadium)



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Saturday Nation



Blue showdown in Manchester

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London
Stung by a last-minute defeat in the Champions League, Manchester City will attempt to make up ground in the Premier League title race when they host leaders Chelsea tomorrow.

A 90th-minute strike by former player Jerome Boateng condemned City to a 1-0 loss at Bayern Munich on Wednesday and left Manuel Pellegrini's side without a victory in three matches.

Chelsea can open up an eight-point lead over the champions if they pull off a repeat of their 1-0 win at the

Etihad Stadium in February and City midfielder Fernandinho says it is a game that his side must win.

"That is not easy for a big team such as City (to lose against Bayern), but the best way to recover our confidence and our best qualities is to win the next game," said the Brazilian.

"Already we think about the Chelsea game. We have to win this game because we have had a (2-2) draw against Arsenal and a (1-0) loss at home to Stoke. We have to recover points to think about the top of the table."

Chelsea are gunning for a fifth consecutive league victory, but their momentum took a blow in Wednesday's 1-1 draw at home to Schalke.

A breakaway goal by Klaas-Jan Huntelaar earned the German side a point after Cesc Fabregas had put the hosts ahead and Chelsea captain John Terry has urged his team to cut out the defensive errors that have seen them concede six goals in their first four league outings.

"The first four league games, we've been killing teams off. We didn't do it (against Schalke), but it was disappointing to

FIXTURES

Today (Kick off 5pm unless stated)

Aston Villa v Arsenal, Burnley v Sunderland, Newcastle United v Hull City, Queens Park Rangers v Stoke City (2.45pm), Swansea City v Southampton, West Ham United v Liverpool (7.30pm)

Tomorrow (Kick-off 6pm unless stated)

Everton v Crystal Palace, Leicester City v Manchester United (3.30pm), Manchester City v Chelsea, Tottenham Hotspur v West Bromwich Albion (3.30pm)

Continued on Page 51



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From the editor

The other day I stumbled on some interesting videos online from *Iyanla Fix My Life*, a reality TV show. The show's host, Iyanla Vanzant, usually intervenes in various situations the guests are in using tough love in an attempt to "fix" them. In these particular videos, Iyanla was trying to fix a man who has 34 children with 17 women. The problem here wasn't that he had so many kids with different women, but the fact that he didn't take any responsibility for his children at all. What is more surprising is that he wants to live that all behind, get married to one woman and have kids with her if she wants. Like me, you may be wondering why he didn't use protection instead of siring so many children and abandoning them, but that is water under the bridge. It is meaningless to ask men and women why they didn't use protection to keep them from getting a child that is already in the picture. Once the child is born, whether you think it was an "accident" or not, you have to step up and take responsibility for the life that you helped create. It doesn't matter if you and the woman don't see eye-to-eye, you have to find a way around it for the sake of the children. The man in Iyanla's show was given 17 dolls to hold in his arms as a symbol of the number of children he has. At one point he asked Iyanla if he could put them down. But the thing is that once you bring a child into the world, you don't get to put him down and forget that he exists. Unfortunately there are men who do that. Even mothers sometimes feel like taking a break from it all; children can drive you crazy and once you have a child, you really cannot afford to be as carefree as you used to be, you have to consider their interests

too, but guess what, women keep going. It must hurt to struggle alone with the kids, paying school fees and medical bills while their father lives like a childless bachelor. Mothers don't get to take a break, and fathers shouldn't too. Back in the day if a father wasn't meeting his financial obligations, the woman, usually his wife, would go to HR, dragging the kids in tow, and ask her husband's employer to intervene. Embarrassing him in that way was usually effective and from then henceforth the woman

would receive a cut for her kids every month. Today, women have taken to social media to name and shame fathers who refuse to take responsibility for their offspring. Whether this is effective and whether it is the right way to go, I'll let you be the judge. What we must agree on is that children need both their mothers and fathers to take responsibility, and not just financially, for their well-being. Turn to page 10 and read the male perspective on shaming an irresponsible father.

Felista Wangari
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inside



p13



p18

- p10 Justice the social media way
- p12 Bright looks for the office
- p15 Bent to breaking point
- p18 Is the wedding night overrated?

Regulars	
Flakes	5
Lizzie's World	8
Woman of Passion	9
Heart Advice	11
Money	17
Leisure	21



p12



p17

EDITOR'S BAROMETER

Five fixes for itchy scalps

- 1 Apple cider vinegar relieves itching. Rinse your hair with one part water mixed with one part vinegar
- 2 Put 10 to 20 drops of tea tree oil in your shampoo or add two to three drops to one tablespoon of vegetable oil and massage on your scalp
- 3 Coconut oil usually helps with dandruff and itching
- 4 Change your hair care products like shampoo and conditioner and use gentle organic brands
- 5 Soak your synthetic hair (before use) in a vinegar solution and shampoo it to remove the



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FEEDBACK

Click & stay in touch



have done anything outrageous and you will still have your African beauty. How about that? Dorothy Wesonga, via email

Thank you, Biko, for the enlightening article. Men need to know that there is nothing real about the shapes of most of the women they see around. They have wobbly bits and

are actually shapeless, for lack of a better word. Men are attracted because these women appear curvaceous but in the real sense, it is just the corset doing its job. As for the ladies, there are no shortcuts; if you want a real "figure 8" you have to exercise, eat a balanced diet, eat controlled portions, avoid alcohol, and do all those other things your doctor recommended. That is how you get that coveted curvaceous body complete with a flat belly. The good thing is that this will be the real deal and your man will be proud of you. Karol Mutio Mutuku, Machakos

Biko does it for me, but let us be real: We live in a world where only women with an hour-glass figure get attention and chubby ones do not even get a second look. What is a woman with a biological clock that is ticking furiously to do? We wrap our waists so tight that even wasps have nothing on us, just to get men to give us that second look. MS, via email

Money is a tool I am a loyal reader who truly appreciates Waceke Nduati Omanga's articles for their practical advice. Last Saturday's piece on the value we place on money, above all other things, struck a chord with me. We are always

looking for money, but we need to understand that money is a means and not the end in itself. It is not just about accumulating it and seeing a huge bank balance. We will eventually age but the desire to make more money will never end, so indeed, we should not view money as a destination. Reading the article reminded me that what truly makes me happy is my family: my wife and three children, so I will use money to help me create memorable experiences with them instead of spending all my time looking for money.

Kevin Munene, via email Waceke's article on the kind of attitude we should have towards money refers. Money can buy many things but it can never buy happiness. In fact, no one can really define the level of material wealth that they will have attained for them to say that they are now rich; there is always more money to pursue and the cycle continues. We have to value what is really important to us and not sacrifice it in our pursuit of wealth. Money is not always a source of happiness and in some cases it even causes problems.

Franklin Mukembu, Kajuki-Nithi Don't poach nannies I read Joan Thatiah's Baby Love article in disbelief. It is unimaginable that there are people who see nothing wrong with poaching another woman's maid. That nanny you poach can take advantage of you. For instance, one such nanny stole from her new employer and the woman could not be helped because the nanny had given her a fake name. It would have been better if she had gotten her own nanny whose background she had looked into. As for the nannies, that new job you are lured into may not

be what you expected. You might end up in worse working conditions or even get assaulted. If the problem is a salary hike, ask your current employer for more money instead of leaving so ungraciously. Lydia Nyambura, via email

Transformative programmes The main feature by Florence Bett last Saturday refers. Jokes make you laugh when you relate to them, and the same applies to transformative programmes. If the programme focuses on something you can relate to or reminds you of an activity you once did regularly that made you happy or successful, it will help you change your life and reach your full potential. Such programmes are effective if they tune in to your passion and help you do things better or think outside the box. They must stretch your limits and push you to move to the next level of your life. Robert Odembo, Ruiru

Heart advice Maurice Matheka's advice on relationship issues is always sound. I love that he gives narrow, well-reasoned solutions that leave one without a doubt about the best action to take. I was particularly impressed by last week's advice to a woman who was being hit on by her best friend's husband. I am looking forward to reading more good counsel. Juma Felix, via email

A heart for street families I was touched by the story of 21-year-old Mercy Muthama, who volunteers to clear the streets of children. She is doing a good job and I wish more of us could get involved in such noble causes. John Njuki, via email

Send your feedback to satmag@ke.nationmedia.com

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

How to avoid giving the wrong vibes

Everybody likes to be seen at their best and to have others think well of them. Sometimes this is difficult, considering that we are human and have a tendency to say and do things without thinking. Some things seem quite normal and natural, and yet give others a negative first impression about you. For example, many women do not realise that smiling broadly especially at men (strangers) who did not grow up in the city is often considered a come-on. Here are some tips on how to avoid making this and other errors both at work and in your daily interactions.

1. Quiet and reserved individuals are often considered proud If you are the type of person who tends to keep to him or herself and hardly joins in conversations, you could be giving the impression that you are proud. You will hear

comments such as "she does not talk to people just like that," or "she feels too special to speak to us ordinary people." In many cases, a quiet person does not have an iota of pride within her. The reserved nature is simply shyness. To avoid seeming standoffish in such a situation, ensure that you simply smile at people or say a word or two as appropriate. Complete silence will eventually make others isolate you.

2. Flashy dressing has its place In ordinary day-to-day life, it gives people the impression that you have lots of money. This makes it impossible for you to bargain for anything whenever you are out shopping. In some cases, prices are hiked instantly. Some people are known to calculate silently the value of your clothes starting from your head to your feet. If the total comes to around Sh20,000 and above, they tend to keep their distance. At bus stops, the touts will make

comments about your dressing. The complete opposite of this situation is when you dress poorly. You may give the impression that you have fallen upon hard times and this can set tongues wagging. Since dressing is a powerful tool, it helps to think about your wardrobe in order to get it right at all times.

3. Visiting the wrong places at the wrong times Every town has joints that are frequented specifically by sex workers. It is quite difficult to differentiate these places from others. You may decide to visit such a place innocently, only to find yourself in an uncompromising situation. As soon as you sit down, you realise that only women who are known go there. In such cases, do not show your face in that vicinity for a while until you are forgotten. — IRENE NJOROG-KRISTIAN (etiquette lecturer.)





BY KINUTHIA MBURU

Mad about cars

"As a little girl, I often thought I would become a pilot. I admired the way pilots took control of a huge vessel right from the runway and into the skies. However, with age, my love shifted to cars. My mother often took my siblings and I to the annual Safari Rally during the April holidays. During that time, Shekhar Mehta was my favourite rally driver. I was so thrilled by cars that instead of playing with dolls I preferred making toy cars using mud and wires. My love for cars led me to a career as a mechanic. I started out at the Nissan workshop in 1997 after a two-year mechanic course.

"Two years after joining the Nissan workshop, I climbed the ladder to the position of team player in charge of 10 mechanics. In 2002, I was promoted again to the service adviser position for the Mercedes section. In

2010, though, I quit my job and joined my husband in opening and running our current business. I started taking part in driving competitions in 2008 while still employed and took part in the Cross Country Raid events. I would drive while my husband navigated. In 2012, I got into rally driving, where I have competed in nine races and completed four. I race in a Toyota Levin with Kui Kui as my navigator.

Early riser

"When there are no rallies, I begin my day between 4.30am and 5am. In most cases, I snooze the alarm for about half-an-hour, after which I pray, shower, and check any

Caroline Wanjiku Gatimu is a Safari Rally driver and the managing director of her own motor company, Shift Auto Parts

pending paperwork for our two high-lifting trucks which we refer to as ambulances for broken down cars. By 6am, I am usually done and ready to prepare my daughter, Tina, for school. She is nine and in Standard Four. Yesterday, we left the house at 7.15am and at around 7.30am, I dropped her off at school. On any other work day, I would have been at work by 7.40am, but on Fridays, I head

to Eastleigh to check and collect cargo. Yesterday was no different.

"I don't like routines so I love that I don't really have one; I can plan my day however I please. During the day I can collect debts, visit clients, or supervise

at the petrol stations where we fuel trucks. I never really break for coffee or lunch and will only remember to eat when I am handling paperwork at my desk. I usually leave for home by 5.15pm, but during school holidays when my older daughter, Shishi, is at home, I can afford to leave work slightly later so that I can be home by 7pm.

"One of the challenging things about what I do is that some men fail to believe me when I tell them what is wrong with their cars. There are people who think that I do not know what I am doing or who say that I am in the wrong profession, but I have learnt not to allow anyone to water down my dreams. I take each day at a time without giving up and always put God first. My husband, Gatimu Mindo, has been very supportive and this has also helped me stay on track."



PHOTO | MARTIN MUKANGU

FLAKES: KATE GETAO

Few people visit a tailor to have their clothes sewn. However, there was a time when everyone had an anecdote about the ruination of their favourite cloth by their favourite tailor. One of my cousins always complained that the sleeves of his tailored shirts never fit properly because the tailor insisted that he bend his arm at the elbow while being measured. No doubt the designer incorrectly applied Pythagoras Theorem to calculate the correct length.

Everything in the world has a shape, even the things that we cannot see. Even the humble point is an anorexic circle that has

The humble point is an anorexic circle that has shrunk to nothingness

shrunk to nothingness. The line is a very masculine shape that is the cause of all wars.

Simplest forms

This is implied by phrases such as "drawing a line in the sand." You cross this line at your own peril. It may also have caught your attention that all weapons move in lines or arcs (which, after all, is just a curvy sort of line.) I wonder if bringing an end to the line would mark the beginning of peace. But since two parallel lines make a road, maybe we need lines for civilian as well as military purposes.

The simplest shape is the triangle, which is formed by three lines facing in different directions. What strikes me about the triangle and its relatives is how suited

they are to the outdoors: tents, tepees, and roofs are all triangular shapes. I guess the reason the triangle is a favourite when it comes to the great outdoors is the way that shape lends itself to water runoff. Skinny at one end and wide at the other means that water is forced to quickly vacate the triangular shape. I notice that triangular trees from temperate

climes tend to be skinny on top and wide at the base while the ones from the dry Kenyan savannah form inverted triangles, holding the water and dripping it to their foot in order to hydrate their roots. I have never thought of it before, but the

Shapes of life



triangle is a very life-giving sort of shape in nature.

Next up from the triangle is the square, which needs an additional line to complete it. When I was working in a lab, I enlightened my colleagues that the arm span of a perfectly-proportioned human should be exactly the same as their height. Everyone started measuring themselves until one rather dull young colleague announced gleefully: "Hey! I'm a perfect square!" That was a rather long-winded way of pointing out that the square is the first shape that is used as an insult. The square is the plainest of shapes, seen mostly in buildings, books, and computers and other man-made items. It is the shape that lends itself most conveniently to being chopped and changed. The square and its companion, the rectangle, are the shape of civilisation.

Beyond four lines

Once we get beyond four lines, then things begin to get a little bit more complicated. The shapes start to have fancy names such as pentagons, hexagons, and octagons, and they are much more difficult to draw. However, it is a paradox that the most complex shape of all, formed from an infinite number of lines, is also the simplest — the circle, that most feminine of shapes. I think of the circle as an indoor shape — conforming itself to stools, hearths, pots, and spoons and, perhaps most fearfully, to wedding rings.

Once you know all the basic shapes there are millions of ways to combine them in order to make new patterns. Nature itself is an infinite combination of shapes and art is our human way of being creative with shapes and colours in order to form beautiful things.

Get in shape this weekend.

Send your feedback to satmag@ke.nationmedia.com

MAINFEATURE

Why we're now more stressed at home than in the office



New research says we are increasingly more content at work than we are at home. By **Barbara McMahon**

It's the last gasp of summer when many of us have been able to spend more time at home, or on holiday with our families, but now it's back to the hard slog at work for the foreseeable future. And is that so bad? According to the latest research, more of us are seeing the workplace as a refuge, the place where we actually feel more valued and less stressed than at home. While some people clock-watch, more of us are stretching out the work day, finishing those last few emails, doing mindless stuff on our computers or heading out to bars with colleagues. We are lingering or not looking forward to our arrival home because of what awaits us when

we open our front doors. For some of us, there will be children to feed and supervise, cooking and cleaning to be done exhausted spouses to deal with and a hundred and one other challenges to address before collapsing into bed. For the single and child-free, there might be an empty house to come home to, with too much time on our hands and nothing good to watch on the television.

Anecdotal evidence

Anecdotal evidence has been building for years about the reversal of home and work and how the office is becoming our "happy place". Arlie Hochschild, a professor emerita

of sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, wrote about the allure of work in her book *The Time Bind*. She looked at a Fortune 500 company and discovered that many people preferred not to take advantage of part-time working, paternity and maternity leave and other family-friendly options. While parents acknowledge that family would always come first, they saw the workplace as a haven from the increasing demands of home. And it wasn't only working mothers trying to get a break from childcare who viewed the workplace favourably. Single people and the child-free also said they didn't mind putting the hours in. Quite apart from any financial considerations, Hochschild noted, many people actively choose to be at work. The distinguished American sociologist, who coined the term Second Shift for the tasks women in two-career couples have to do when they come home at night, concluded that work had become the more attractive place to be while home was perceived to be the more stressful place. About a fifth of the people she interviewed said the work environment was where they felt most appreciated, most supported and most "themselves." One executive, for example, told Hochschild that he found dealing with his "office children" – his subordinates – more rewarding than dealing with his own offspring.

Innovative research

Now, innovative research in the United States is backing up this theory that many people – and especially women – find work to be less stressful than their home lives. Researchers at Penn State University recruited 122 working men and women (average age 41) who were employed in Monday to Friday jobs with weekends off. Slightly more than half were middle-income earners on \$30,000 to \$47,999 a year. Twenty per cent earned less than that and 25 per cent earned more. Fifty-two per cent of those polled were married and half of them had children living at home.

Over the course of three days, the participants were asked to swab their mouth and collect saliva samples. The samples were tested to measure the level of cortisol, a stress hormone. The participants were also asked six times a day how happy they felt and how much stress they felt they were under.

"Measuring people's cortisol level, a major biological marker of stress, we found that people have significantly lower levels

of stress at work than at home," says Sarah Damaske, one of the co-authors of the report and an assistant professor of labour and employment relations.

"These low levels of cortisol may help explain a long-standing finding that has always been hard to reconcile with the idea that work is a major source of stress: people who work have better mental and physical health than their non-working peers," she adds.

Previous research has already shown, she adds, that mothers who work full-time and steadily across their twenties and thirties report better physical and mental health than mothers who work part-time, who stay at home, or who experience repeated bouts of unemployment.

Further contradicting conventional wisdom, Damaske's research found that women, as well as men, have lower levels of stress at work than at home. In fact, women may get more renewal from work than men, she adds. They reported themselves happier at work than at home while men reported the opposite, she continues.

The research produced other interesting findings. "We found that parents – both mothers and father – had lower stress at work than at home," Damaske says. "However, parents did not experience as big a decrease in their stress levels as non-parents."

Lower level of stress

Low-income people reported lower level of stress when they were at work whereas people in the higher income group showed no difference between the two. "One of the things we speculate might be happening here is, for low-income people, you're at work and your mind is on the task and doing your job, and it's only when you get home that you worry about paying your bills and the stress goes up," she says.

So what is going on? Hochschild pointed out in her report that the workplace is becoming ever more home-like. Even factories can be relatively quiet, well-lit and pleasant environments to work in. At work, the social aspect of mixing with other people is important. Though your immediate superiors might be pains, people feel part of a team. They build alliances and friendships, indulge in childish pranks and have flirtations. One woman told researchers that she had a terrific social life attached to her workplace and that her colleagues made more of a fuss of her on her birthday than her husband and children did.

Damaske points out that there is a difference between the kind of stress people experience at home and the kind of stress they experience in the workplace. "There are very different highs and lows, she says. "At home, if you have kids, maybe one of them will give you a big hug and it makes your day. But at the same time you might unload the dishwasher or vacuum or make dinner and not have anyone thank you or even notice what you've done. Families can be a source of stress in themselves – you're worried about elderly parents or how your child is doing in school or why you've just had an argument with your partner. These are stressful events but they are culturally minimised because we expect home to be like that."

At work, she points out, we get thanks for a job well done, we feel appreciated and we

IS YOUR DESK YOUR HAPPY PLACE? THE SIGNS...



You're glad to be back from your holiday

You are sneakily relieved that the summer holidays are over and that it's time to get back to the coal face. You put extra effort into your hair or make-up, you might even splash out on a new suit or handbag. Like a child starting a new school year, you are dying to tell all your work chums what you've been up to and catch you on their gossip.

You have an office family

You have maternal/parental feelings for younger colleagues and over the summer holidays, you've missed your office "wife" or "husband." You've missed the socialising and the easy camaraderie between you and your colleagues. After time away from the office, you have renewed appreciation for your workmates, even those who normally drive you mad. Even your boss doesn't look so bad – he or she is probably just struggling under the weight of their responsibilities. You resolve to be more supportive.

Your desk is sacred

Your workspace is tiny but it is your own little kingdom where nobody will interfere and where no grubby little hands will mess up all your papers. You spend a pleasant few minutes lining up the Sellotape, the stapler and your containers of pens, and decide that tomorrow you'll bring in a small bunch of fresh flowers or swap those old family photographs for new ones. You might even have "fun" desk accessories.

You prefer your work persona

You like the person you are at work, calm and amenable and efficient instead of frazzled and irritable and exhausted at home. Finally comes first, of course, but it's nice to leave them all behind for a few hours. You sit straighter at your

desk and feel your mind clearing as you sketch out the coming work week. You banish thoughts of children, housework and bills, at least temporarily, and feel some of your internal pressures dissolve. You feel... in control. At work you have a clear sense of who you are, where you fit in and what the division of labour is.

You feel more appreciated at work

You rarely get thanks for all that you do at home. Everyone just seems to take you for granted. In the office your efforts are noted and appreciated. You get verbal pats on the back for jobs well done and commiseration from colleagues when things don't go to plan. If you have a doubt or a question, there are senior people you can go to and you will be supported and listened to.

Works the other way

You are happy to help junior colleagues and give them the benefit of your advice. They look up to you and it's very gratifying. At home, your children and spouse sometimes look right through you or take no heed of what you say, but in the workplace, people listen and take your views on board. It's a refreshing change.

You linger at the office - You've put in a full day and nobody would mind if you go home but you can always find an excuse to delay putting on your coat and getting out of there ... a few more emails to answer, a bit of tootling around on the internet, calling friends and relatives from the peace and quiet of your workspace, tidying your desk drawers, chatting with colleagues. If possible, you're always up for a couple of drinks before starting the journey home. It's a good way to decompress before facing the family or that empty house.

also have a get-out clause. "We know that if we're having a bad day then it's only for eight hours and at some point we can leave.

Or we can quit our jobs altogether and look for something else. You can't do that with home life. Most of us aren't going to leave

our families just because it's stressful."

Explaining the finding that women report more stress at home while men do the opposite, Damaske says that even though men are doing a bigger share of household tasks than previous generations they still aren't doing as much as women. "That Second shift can be really hard," she says.

Her study also found that stress levels tended to disappear at weekends for both genders. "This is indicating that some of the stress at home might stem from the challenges of combining home and work responsibilities," she continues. "We have to cram in so much more on weeknights."

Brigid Schulte, author of the best-selling *Overwhelmed: Work, Love and Play When No One Has the Time*, says she is not surprised by Penn State's research and its finding that women are happier at work.

"The research is based on the stress hormone cortisol and our hormones don't lie," she says. "Earlier research, based on surveys, found something similar and I remember the headlines at the time blaring different versions of 'Selfish moms can't wait to get away from their children!' and thinking how they'd got it all wrong."

Anecdotal evidence has been building up ... the office is becoming our "happy place".

"The lives of women have changed almost completely in the past 40 years, and the world around them has hardly changed at all. "Women are still expected to do as much – and more – at home as they always have. So many now add a full day's work on top of that, trying to compete with men who do not have the same responsibilities at home. Men have been doing more, it's true, but they still do far less housework and childcare. And women are the ones who keep everything together – planning summer holidays, carpool, organising meals, taking everyone's emotional temperature and adjusting activities accordingly, buying clothes, cleaning, shopping, etc."

Men, she continues, are frequently in the helper role, which does not lighten the emotional burden. "Damaske's research simply shows the Second Shift is alive and well, and the toll it takes primarily on women," Schulte says.

Is there a solution? "Technology is opening the way for both men and women to work in more flexible ways. It's giving managers the ability to rate workers based on their actual performance rather than the hours that they put in," Schulte says.

"The findings suggest that telling people to quit or to cut back on work in order to resolve work-family conflicts may not be the best advice in the long run," Damaske says. "We're not saying that work can't sometimes be stressful but it can also make you happy. Work can give you a level of satisfaction that hanging out at home with your family might not."

GIRLTALK



How to date when you are a workaholic

Your commitment to your work could be standing in the way of your love life.

By Joan Thatiah

Are you unable to switch off from work when you are at home or even on holiday? Has your significant other complained that you spend too much time at work? You may be a workaholic. While this tendency may be taking your career places, your commitment to your job can result in major issues in your romantic relationships and it has the potential of altering the direction your relationship takes. Here's how to balance the two:

Prioritise – The good news is that you can have it all, both a healthy relationship and a rewarding career. You do not need to sacrifice one aspect of your life for the other to flourish. The trick is knowing when to put weight on which aspect of your life. You can start this adjustment by building a strong foundation for both your love and office life. When the people in both of these sections of your life understand that they are valuable to you, having a late night at the office is unlikely to shake your love life. Neither will taking some time off threaten your career.

Be present – You may not manage to always be with your significant other when you should or be at work when you are required, but you can make a conscious effort to always be present where you are. This means

not checking your tab for work emails during dinner or a quiet night in with your significant other. Both of these two aspects of your life deserve an undivided attention and devotion.

Schedule romance – It may not sound so romantic but to get fulfillment from these two areas of your

The trick is to know when to put weight on your work and when to focus on your love life

life, you may need to schedule time for your personal relationships just as you schedule your business meetings. Schedule phone calls, dates and even intimacy. This also means keeping track of how much time of your life you spend doing what. This way you can plan to refocus most of your time to the things that matter most to you.

Accept imperfection – Accept that you may not be able to reach the kind of impeccable success that

you hope for in either aspect of your life. If you are a few minutes late or if you cannot attend an event with your significant other, do not beat yourself up for it. It doesn't mean that you failed, only that you are human.

Separate – To have success in these two aspects of your life, it is best if you compartmentalise. Keep your love life away from work and vice versa. When you are with your significant other, give them all your attention and do not let your work duties be a distraction. When you are working on a project at work, do not daydream about your significant other. This also means limiting the amount of work-related focus that you and your partner share. Talk to him about work but do not let this overshadow other aspects of your relationship.

Stay positive – Jobs can sometimes wear one down but whatever is going on at the office, do not let it wear your relationship down. When leaving the office, leave all baggage at the door. Also do the same with your love life when you are leaving home for work.

Remain connected – Every career or business has that time of the month or the year when the workload is unusually heavier. During this time, make use of the technological advances that we now have at our finger tips to stay connected to your partner. This way, while you are away they know you are thinking of them.

Rock your biological schedule – Each person has a particular time of day when they are most creative and energetic and a time when their energy levels are slumped. Understanding this helps you plan what time of day you assign either to work or to your love life and you will not be at work doing nothing and feeling as if you are wasting valuable time. Also, find out the things that refuel you. It could be music or swimming and it will keep you from long stretches of feeling worn out or resentful.

RESEARCHCENTRE

WITH JOAN THATIAH

What men really think about having babies

New research findings indicate a significant shift in the views of men and women when it comes to parenthood, with men exhibiting more maternal instincts than women. According to research commissioned by vouchercloud.com, today's man wants to have babies early but not so the woman. The study showed that while women want to wait until they are 32 to start having babies, the man thinks that 29 is the prime age for having babies, meaning that their biological clocks start ticking two years earlier than that of women. Men also feel that 25 is the ideal age for a woman to start having babies.

The researchers looked into nearly 2,000 childless men and women aged between 18 and 39 and their thoughts on reproduction. All the study subjects were in cohabiting relationships for the past two years at the time of the study.

Ideal number of children

At the beginning of the study, the respondents were asked whether or not they wanted to have children in the future. Eighty-eight per cent of the men said yes while only 79 per cent of the women felt the same. Both the men and women who wanted to have children felt that two was the ideal number.

Both groups were then asked the oldest age at which they would feel comfortable having a baby. While both sexes appeared to agree on the ideal number of children, the men felt that 35 was the oldest they would feel comfortable fathering a child while women felt 41 was the latest they would give motherhood a shot. Statistically, men want children more than women.

A spokesperson for vouchercloud.com explained that there has been a significant shift in the working lives of both men and women and with women in the workplace, which has more than likely contributed to these results. He explained that after all, the women do all the hard work, so building a career before taking on motherhood has become of a greater value, especially seeing as having a child only makes life more expensive.

Also, the role of the celebrity father is becoming more and more attractive to men. We now have celebrity fathers openly enjoying fatherhood and it should thus come as no surprise that men now feel more comfortable publicly embracing fatherhood and its unique perks and challenges.



GIRLTALK

WOMAN OF PASSION

WITH VIVIAN MUIA

Alice Wesonga started out in catering, went through a phase of doubt about what she wanted to do for a living, and finally went back to her first love: cooking

"In June of 2008, my mother had a stroke. We spoke every day on the telephone as I tried to go on leave to visit her. It took about four weeks for my three-day leave request to go through; such was the demanding nature of my job at a bank. Anyway, in the end I was given the go-ahead. Finally I was going to see my mother.

"But that was not to be. At 8pm the next Tuesday, I received a call from my aunt. There was no need to travel to Kisumu the next day. Mum was gone.

"Two weeks after the funeral, I got a call concerning a tumour that had been found in my stomach. Thankfully it was benign, but I still needed to have it surgically removed. It was four months of hospital visits and bed rests before I was given the green light to go back to work. I was happy to have something to keep my mind off recent events, but relief soon gave way and I was overwhelmed as my tasks piled up — even with reporting at work as early as 6am and leaving at 8pm, I still had an endless to-do list.

Violet, a friend with whom I had run a catering business before going into employment, saw how much I was struggling and invited me back. But my medical expenses had exhausted my cover and put me in debt. For two months, therefore, I tried in vain to tame my workload.

"My friend and I had started catering in 1999, eight years after graduating from the polytechnic with a diploma in institutional management. Before going into business I had expected to be happy in employment, but the routine of my work at a hotel had become such a grind that I even questioned my place in hospitality. My sister, whom I look up to, is an auditor. Believing that the genes must run in our family, I resigned from my hotel job in 1997 to study accounting. I looked forward to earning my friends' everlasting admiration since they were terrified of anything remotely mathematical. But, alas! That dream was shattered when I dropped out of accounting school in the first semester; juggling my studies with

Cooking through the storms of life

my fledgling business proved impossible. Now that I think about it, I attended class for just three weeks.

"Catering became less demanding as we got the hang of it and most of our jobs were scheduled for weekends. While visiting a friend with a group of women, I mentioned that I was considering going back into employment to fill up my empty weekdays. One of the women said that she had heard of a sales position at a bank. However, she said, I did not look like I could succeed in sales. That sounded

like a challenge to me. I visited the bank the next day to inquire about the position. Instead, I was interviewed — and hired!

"With my new job came a new challenge: one of the conditions in the banking industry is that employees must have a university degree. My diploma

in institutional management would allow some exemptions if I studied a related discipline. Therefore, in 2006 I enrolled at the university to study hotel management. And so my double life began. I arrived at work at 6am and headed for school at 5pm. I typically got back home at midnight.

"Some of my former schoolmates at the polytechnic were also studying at the university. They planned to leave employment for catering and were so excited about entering a life that I had left behind that I found myself reconsidering my choices.

It had been a year since I had participated in building the catering business and I did not want to impose on my partner. If I was going to go back

into full-time catering, I was going to go it alone. However, I did not have the capital to start up. And I felt unprepared — even after graduating. The mixed reactions from the family members and friends with whom I shared my thoughts did not help my confidence.

"Fast-forward to 2009, my partner invited me back. We talked and I realised that she, in fact, could use my help. Moreover, we had always complemented each other. It was difficult to settle back into the business, however. Catering jobs were few and paid poorly — and I had my debts to pay. For six months I tried to find another job in vain. In the meantime, I took on independent business consulting jobs and managed to pay off the debt.

"Violet and I recently shifted our focus from weddings to home-based events. That was a good move. We have also expanded our business and now offer homestay accommodation and hiring grounds for events. It is a daily struggle, this business. Our margins continue taking a hit as we struggle to balance the ever-rising cost of food with our clients' limited budgets, but seeing people going for seconds and thirds motivates me to keep on cooking."

Seeing people going for second and third servings motivates me to keep on cooking

HOW SHE DID IT:

- I picked up a love for good food from my grandfather. He was an excellent cook.
- I spent time growing my skills by helping my mother in the kitchen.
- I tried many things and learnt to

accept what was working and what was not.

- I became partners with a friend. Her support helped me make tough decisions.
- Trying out new and different recipes wins new customers and keeps the old ones coming back.



PHOTO | CHARLES KAMAU

MALEPERSPECTIVE

MANTALK
WITH JACKSON BIKO

Justice the social media way

While deadbeat dads don't deserve any sympathy, there must be a better way of dealing with them than putting them up for online mob justice

I think we all agree that if you father a child you should take care of it. There are no grey areas. Though my knowledge of the scriptures is a bit rusty, I am certain it must be somewhere in the Bible as well.

It is disheartening to throw chaps rounds in a bar while your child's name is constantly on the headmistress's list of fees defaulters. It is deeply disappointing to post lavish pictures of your hotel room in Dubai on Facebook while your children cannot even spell your name anymore. It is not enough to use fatherhood as a tool to further your own social agenda when you cannot even remember your only child's birthday. I think we all agree on those talking points; that men should pay up for their children. Period. So those gentlemen blacklisted on that Facebook page — Dead Beat Kenya — do not deserve my sympathy.

Having said that, (Oh boy, did I end up being the guy who uses phrases like "having said that"?), let us also agree that Dead Beat Kenya is built on the same premise as mob justice; that as much as it might be effective, it is low. It is not even a solution. It is a public crucifixion. A man who has not bothered with his child for five years is the kind of soul that is dead to such levels of cyber-bullying. He is the kind of chap who is incapable of caring.

Two sides of a coin

Moreover, we cannot be quick to stone these chaps publicly because they say that even the flattest pancake has two sides. A case in point is the gentleman who was "exposed" in that group and who later submitted receipts of school fees and M-Pesa remittances as evidence to this enthused court of public opinion. Turns out that the woman who exposed him might have been driven by malice. It makes you wonder how to stop women who might just want to serve their revenge cold. Everybody needs their time in court, I think. This justice on social media just is not the way to go.

We also all agree that it is not uncommon for some women to use children as leverage to either bully,



frustrate, or alienate a man. Come on, we have seen it before; women have been known to brainwash children about who their father is. They use words like "useless" to describe fathers before their children or constantly talk such filth about the chap to the children, causing them to lose all respect for the man. How does a man react to that?

If your father is a useless yob you will see through him at some point. You do not need your mother telling you the kind of man he is. In fact, mothers who try to cover the "nakedness" of their useless husbands to their children are the smarter ones because when the children finally see (and they will) who their fathers really are, they will respect their mothers for being such decent human beings and the opinion they form about their fathers will be legitimate. Children should not be hurled into this huge conflict or used as trump cards.

If you are the kind of person who

would put up a picture of your child and your ex online, complete with his telephone number, the names on his identification card, and a long story of what a bastard he is, then you deserved each other; you are both crass and indecent.

Do not forget that these men, these deadbeat good-for-nothing fathers, do not fear embarrassment. They were born shameless. There must be better ways to get them to be take responsibility. There are other more civilised avenues, ways that speak to your own sense of decency.

A man who hasn't bothered with his child for years is dead to that level of cyber-bullying

Need for dignity

This is not even about whether they should pay or not, because they should. This is about class and common decency and poise. If he is a complete buffoon, if he has dragged himself down this road of disgrace, the least you can do is not to let yourself be

dragged down this sewer with him, unless you also belong there.

A woman should be tasteful, for crying out loud! A mother even more so because these children will grow up and all these garbage people put online will always be there for the children to see and make their own judgements about your online actions. So what if they find your actions unbecoming?

Look, every weekend I come here and knock women and their actions because women can be a pain. But I only do it because I have high expectations of them. There are many things we can get away with as men that a woman would not get away with easily because women were built to have a certain level of reason and pragmatism that we might lack. Women should be the island of reason, dignity, and grace amid the sea of our complete stupidity. But coming on Facebook like that, to get to the level of those scumbags, playing to a gallery of a cheering online crowd is not the kind of action you want to embody as a woman. It all boils down to tact, ladies. You are known for great acts of tact, and this is not one of them.



HEARTADVICE

WITH RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLOR MAURICE MATHEKA

BODY&SOUL

Should I marry the woman my mum wants?

This week we advise a man who has to choose one of two women to marry

I am a 24-year-old man dating a 26-year-old woman. She has a four-year-old child. We have dated for two years now and love each other. My problem is neither with her age (she is older than me) nor with her child. What I am worried about is whether my parents will accept her. I am afraid they may not, especially my mother who wants me to marry a neighbour's daughter. How should I go about this to avoid hurting any of the parties, bearing in mind that I took this woman from a serious relationship that could have ended in marriage. Please advise.

READERS' ADVICE

I salute you for overlooking your woman's age and the fact that she has a child. However, you need to realise that you cannot please everyone all the time. You have to make a decision: will it be the woman of your choice or that

EXPERT ADVICE

Maurice replies

Is this the woman you want to spend the rest of your life with or are you in the relationship for the fun of it? It looks as if you hid your relationship from your

parents and if so, it is time for you to step up and introduce the woman you love. You cannot always please your parents with your choice of partner, but in time they will respect you for being the man they brought you up to

be, a man who can stand up for himself. If you allow your parents, or anyone else for that matter, to dictate who you should marry, you will find yourself in a very empty and unhappy marriage. There are far too many marriages

of convenience; I urge you not to be part of the statistics. If indeed you love this woman and have accepted her and her child, then nothing should sway you from being there for her unconditionally.

of your parents? Remember that marriage is between two people and bear in mind that you will be spending a lot of time with the person you choose. Do not allow third parties to come between you and the one you love. **Robert Odembo**

Do you realise that the man from whom you stole this young mother was hurt? Marriage is a lifelong commitment. The central tenet in any marriage is love. No man marries for his parents, siblings, or friends. He does it for himself, driven by love for his partner. Ignore your mother's unorthodox idea and follow your heart's conviction. One more thing you need to do is to find a way to apologise to the man from whom you stole this young mother to avoid any future predicaments. Remember, we are responsible for the choices we make in our lives. So, take responsibility. **Brother Gerald Kariuki Mose**

What if you marry the girl your mother wants and it fails to work? You will live to regret and resent your mother for making you marry someone you did not want.

To avoid that, follow your heart. **Macharia N. Calvin**

If you love your partner the way you have stated, there should be no doubt about who to marry. Take courage and introduce her to your parents. Whether your parents approve of her or not, what matters is that you love her, she loves you, and you make a perfect match. Just imagine a situation where you marry someone you do not

love, hoping that you will love her in time. This may take ages and you may never love her. So, go ahead and inform your parents of your intentions to marry this woman regardless of her age and her child. **John Musuku**

You have to stand for what you want, not what others want for you. If you are marrying someone to please your parents, you will not

just hurt another person, you will hurt yourself too. Marriage is about happiness, not pleasing your parents or third parties. **Francis Kamotho**

What was the point of taking her from another man if you cannot stand your ground and marry her despite obstacles in your way? Let this woman go because as things stand, you will only cause her a lot of pain. **Mariah Mariah**

NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA:

My husband goes out to drink almost every day and comes back at midnight. I have complained about this until I feel as if I am going crazy. Last month I packed my clothes and told him I was going back to my parents, but he grabbed our two-month-old baby and told me that I cannot leave with his child. He told me that nothing I or anyone else says can make him change. I am very stressed and unhappy. I wanted to book a getaway for us to iron out our issues but he told me that I am wasteful, yet he is the one who spends thousands of shillings on alcohol every day. He was a drinker even before we got married but I did not realise that it would affect our marriage this much. We have only been married for three years. What should I do?



Send your questions and feedback to satmag@ke.nationmedia.com



DEAR AUNT TRUPHENA

PROFESSIONAL ADVICE FOR YOUR LIFE PROBLEMS

Is this the right time to propose to my girlfriend?

Q: I have been dating my girlfriend for one-and-a-half years and I have seen that she would make a good wife. We connect well and I want to propose to her, but I fear that she might reject me. What should I do to avoid this? Also, I feel that our relationship has lasted long enough and most of my friends already have families. What do we need to do to take our relationship to that level? Please advise.

It looks as if your relationship is not fully grounded, hence the feelings of insecurity. Before you propose to your girlfriend, evaluate yourself to see if you are both ready for marriage. A marriage proposal changes your life forever and you have to be sure that you are doing it for the right reasons. You should not propose just because you are feeling under pressure to get married or because everyone around you is getting married. Being in a relationship for long does not obligate you to make a move; only propose if you feel that the time is right. Work on building a good foundation and cultivating friendship so that your girlfriend can feel

secure in this area. When she realises that you are confident and sure of yourself, that you know exactly what you want in a relationship, and that you are capable of leading her into a new experience, she will be willing to settle down with you. It is crucial that you handle her well and understand her emotions. You have to establish trust in this relationship. It is a wonderful feeling when your girlfriend trusts and relies on you. As you do all this, find out from your girlfriend if she is equally committed to the relationship; after all, it takes two to tango. You can do this by having a candid and sincere talk with her. Remember that it is not all



about her; you also need to feel secure about her because that way it is easier to take the relationship to the next level. I wish you well in your relationship and success with your proposal.

Send your feedback to satmag@ke.nationmedia.com

**EXPERT
STYLE TIPS**



trends that last

The problem with trends is that they come and go, and it can be a bit overwhelming trying to keep up with the latest. If you want to try out a trend, buy only what will work with your existing wardrobe and fuse it with the outfits you have. But just because a recent trend has been overshadowed by new styles does not mean that you have to push your favourite items to the back of the closet. Here are some trends that you can play around with and get a lot of wear out of:

- **Leather/pleather:** A short, pencil or midi leather skirt is a great transitional pick that is edgy and cool. If you cannot afford leather buy good quality pleather; it is a perfect alternative.
- **80s high waist jeans (mom jeans):** Most people will shy away from this style, but it is a must-have that looks great in acid wash. Pair up with cropped tops, leotard tops, or loose

blouses to nail the trend. Layer up with a boyfriend jacket to complete your whole look. Ensure that the jeans are a good fit.

- **Varsity look:** This trend has a youthful feel, but neutral pieces work for everyone. You can choose from cuffed pants, pleated skater style skirts, or plain skirts with a sporty detail that is subtle as these are easily paired up with other clothes from your closet. Instead of trying to pull off a top-to-bottom varsity look, pick elements of the trend i.e. pair up cuffed sweat pants with heels instead of trainers.
- **Lace:** This is a classic that works as an all-rounder. However, pick a frock in a neutral shade as this will work long after the trend has passed. You can also get a coloured one provided that the cut and design flatter you.
- **Loafers:** There is a variety of styles for penny loafers. Do not be conservative with these; pick a nice colour that will work with many clothes in your closet or go for rich fun colours.

**HANDY FACTS
& POINTERS**

(Clockwise) Round flash lens sunglasses, silver frame sunglasses, gold frame round sunglasses, price range Sh2,000 – 2,500, all from Maggy's Collection.



Sun screens

John Lennon frames are simply retro and uber-cool! These iconic and super-stylish shades offer the most chic protection against UV rays.

FASHION



Grey trouser suit, Sh12,000, Dee Collection. White turtleneck top, Sh500; brown kimono leather belt, Sh3,500, both from Clothing Garage. Silver necklace, Sh800, Zhuri Jewellery. Yellow patent peep-toe with print back detail, Sh4,500, Backyard Shoez.

Energise your neutral office wear with bursts of solid colour or colourful prints to uplift your look. Wear broken suits or simply inject some colour with accessories or shoes.

PE U LO

STOCKISTS

Dee Collection, Jamia Mall Shop F73, Nairobi, tel: 0721 210 230
Backyard Shoez, Kilimani, Nairobi, tel: 0724 996 818 / 725 803 012
Clothing Garage, Kilimani, Nairobi, tel:

0722 274 417
La Casa, Kilimani, Nairobi, tel: 455
Laddia, Market stall, Nairobi, tel: 455
Mosque, Nairobi, tel: 455
Maggy's Collection, Nairobi, tel: 455

T&STYLE

WITH LYDIA OMOLO



Floral print jacket and black skirt, Sh12,000, Dee Collection; lime green vest, Sh1,000, Laddia. Mocha heels, Sh4,500, Backyard Shoez.



Mustard dress, Sh6,000, orange belt and blue belt worn as one, Sh1,000 each, all from Dee Collection. Black-and-gold neckpiece, Sh1,000, Zhuri Jewellery. Blue heels, Sh4,500, Backyard Shoez.



Aqua green dress, Sh6,000, Dee Collection. Red T-bar heels, Sh4,500, Backyard Shoez



Charcoal grey double lapel skirt suit, Sh12,000, Dee Collection. Multi-colour neckpiece set, Sh1,000, Zhuri Jewellery. Zebra print pony heels, Sh4,500, Backyard Shoez

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tel: +254 723 134 582
on, Market Stall next

to Jamia Mosque, Kigali Rd, stall no.C6
/ Majengo, Malindi, opp. Simba Bar tel:
0707 092 113 / 0707 092 111
Zhuri Jewellery, Ruaka Square, Nairobi,
tel: 0735 783 092

Model: Norma Chege Profession: Student Hobbies: Travelling,

dancing and reading novel

Send your feedback to satmag@ke.nationmedia.com

BABYLOVE

Giving kids career guidance

Here's how you can positively influence your child's future career from an early age. By **Florence Bett**

You, as a parent, are the biggest influence of your child's career choice. And this influence plays both ways: You can be such a big influence that you impose your unfulfilled career ambitions on your child. Or you can be so detached that you have little or no influence on his choices. Finding this balance is crucial.

Well, you may believe that you have it right, and that you are well involved in your child's early career choices. But there may be things you are doing unknowingly which are limiting him in his career choices. Consider this and ask yourself these three questions:

Are you exposing your child to a variety of toys? A 2010 UK study confirmed that boys tend to be given toys that involve action, construction and machinery, while girls are given caring and nurturing toys like dolls and kitchen sets. The toys your child interacts with should not be gender-specific. The limitation with gender-specific toys is that they develop either the left or right side of the brain, steering your kid towards particular careers: Boy-toys tend to develop logic, thus sharpening their skills in problem-solving for maths and science-oriented careers. Girl-toys tend to develop feeling, creativity and imagination skills for careers considered feminine like nursing and hairdressing.

Ouma Onala, a special education and early childhood development consultant says, "Parents should expose their kids to a variety of play skills to develop the right and left sides of the brain equally. Both boys and girls should be allowed to play with dolls, animal toys, cooking stuff, pretend play (doctor-doctor, father-mother, safari rally, etc), ball games, cars games and so on."

Are you aware of your child's abilities and personality type? The folly with our education system is that it matches end-of-year exam and test results to career choices. Which is the short end of the stick because test results do not consider that behind the scores there is a child with a distinctive personality that can be definitively matched to a suitable career. Research shows that matching your child's personality type to his career choice has a higher likelihood of job satisfaction and



success, than matching it to his academic abilities.

Vincent Oloo, a life coach from Breath Africa, says, "Observe your child so you can understand his natural talents and passions. Then work closely with his teachers to identify his academic abilities. Matching the two will point you to the career that is best for him."

"There is no need for him to study medicine if he wants to become, say, a musician. Every soul comes to this planet with a clear mission – guide him to find his," says Oloo.

Are you reading to your child/is he reading for pleasure? Parenting experts encourage the habit of reading aloud to your child from as early as when they

are four months old (picture reading also counts). The benefits of reading for cognitive development cannot be over-emphasised. Reading takes your child's mind to a place where his imagination can soar and nurtures independent thinkers. The stories in books open him up to the knowledge of people, places and cultures in a way other forms of entertainment like TV and video games are unable to. The richness of this knowledge widens his career options.

According to a 2013 study, reading for pleasure has all of these benefits, plus it is more important to a child's development than his parents' level of education.

"The combined effect of reading books often, going to the library regularly and reading newspapers was four times greater than the advantage a child gained from having a parent with a degree," says

Matching your child's personality type to his career choice has a higher likelihood of job satisfaction

the study.

Reading, therefore, also minimises the impact your career values as a parent have on your child's view of careers: Job-oriented parents view work as a means to an end, they work for the paycheck. Career-oriented parents value the status and prestige that comes with certain careers. Calling-oriented parents pursue work they are passionate about, because they want their work to be fulfilling. Oloo says in relation to this, "As a parent, you need to realise your child needs the freedom and space to live his own life and make his own choices, especially this life-long choice of career. The moment it feels you are imposing this choice on him, your child starts to lose his self-worth and self-esteem. Give him your permission to grow into who he will eventually become."

DIARY OF A WORKING MOTHER

WITH MARIA MWONGELI

No more sweets for Baby

Monday; 7:30am: Today Siji seems taller or is it because I did not see her last evening? She has taken well to Nanny who is very kali though in a good way ... at least I hope that while I am at work; she is just as good as she is when I am around. I told Siji to let me know if anything happens that she does not like. She must tell on Nanny.

Tuesday; 5:12pm: Ha! I was sure I was not the only mummy who buys toys said to be for boys, for my daughter. I smiled happily at a little girl who was crossing the road on my way home. She was carrying a big green toy bus. At first I thought

she was a boy because of her short hair, but her shoes gave her away; they were pink and flowery.

Wednesday; 7:11am: Here we go again! I choose not to lie to the child because when I deliberately walk by the sweet stand at the supermarket and do not buy one, I intend not to feel guilty about it! So as we were leaving the house for work, Siji asks for Zinc and I said "no" while Daddy said "yes!" Then she burst into tears. Considering that her front teeth are turning greyish, something I said I would never let happen to any of my children, I will definitely not say yes to sweets. She can have

a banana, or raisins. I bought some yesterday!

Thursday; 8:46pm: Siji has a sore throat! Again! But she strangely has no fever. When she pointed to the forbidden medicine that she still wants to gurgle/ swallow, I picked her up and took her to my room and showed her another medicine: Robb! I smeared it around her neck (the menthol in it makes her eyes water) and remembered how my mother used to cover my chest with Vicks many years ago.

Siji is three years, four months and 20 days old today

Friday; 9:23pm: Oh the joys of being a child! We visited an aunt this evening and Siji went straight into her bedroom and came out holding Simba, a stuffed animal that belongs to her cousin. Siji already has a basketful of toys that she rarely picks up after playing, and if I had had my way, I would have tossed it out the window as we left her aunt's. Oh well, this is now the latest addition to the overflowing toy basket.

HEALTHMATTERS



Bent to breaking point

Dr Joachim Osur witnesses an odd but rare fracture that can happen during vigorous activity and forceful bending of the man's organ during intimacy

It was a beautiful Christmas Eve. The sun hung over the horizon, its shadow reflected in the deep waters of the ocean. We were on holiday and I sat chitchatting with Goretty.

"Now look at that one," she shrieked.

She was pointing at a couple walking towards one of the hotel rooms facing the sea. The man was huge with a protruding tummy; he could have weighed 120 kilos. His partner, a girl who looked rather young and emaciated, could have been 30 kilos.

"She could just be small-bodied; not every emaciated girl is under 18," I said, hoping to draw Goretty's attention from the scene.

But Goretty was persistent. She cursed and promised to take action.

"What action?" I asked, "Who made you police over fat men dating thin girls?"

Something terrible

She dismissed my jest, stood up, and walked towards the couple who by now was shutting the door behind them.

"I am going to listen in and if she screams I will call security," she shouted.

"There comes the beginning of the end of my holiday, God have mercy," I shouted back at her retreating form.

Ten minutes later Goretty came running back.

"Please go help! The man is screaming as if something has gone terribly wrong!" she exclaimed.

"I thought you were to call security if anybody screamed!" I retorted sarcastically. Was I supposed to interfere with a couple enjoying their holiday?

Suddenly I saw hotel attendants running towards the room. Another one was running to where we were seated.

"I know you are a doctor, please

come and help, something terrible has happened," shouted the attendant.

As I approached the door, I could hear the man screaming.

"Aii mama, aii mama, aii mama..." he croaked.

The man was seated naked in a pool of blood on the bed, his legs wide apart. The tiny girl was standing by the bedside, wrapped in a towel.

I took a closer look at the man's genitals, wiping the blood with a towel. His penis was torn in the middle and it was bleeding profusely. I suspected that it was a case of fractured penis. Penile fracture is a condition that results from

Cross-generational relationships in which the man is significantly older than the girl are not just bad for the girl, the man is also exposed to serious risks

vigorous penetrative sex. The erect penis ruptures in the middle due to forced bending, gushing out blood and causing unbearable pain.

The man blamed the poor girl.

"She decided to be on top and was too rough on me, now see what she has done," he said, hurling abuses at the girl who was now shaking and weeping.

Penile fracture is an emergency that requires immediate surgery to prevent complications. If not attended to immediately, parts of the penis can die, calling for surgical amputation. However, more commonly, the man may lose the ability to have an erection. This is because the blood vessels and nerves that cause erection get damaged in penile fracture, especially if surgery is delayed.

In a number of cases, even after surgery, the penis loses its shape. It may become curved or develop an angle. This may restrict sexual activity, sometimes making sex painful and unpleasant. Even more humiliating, the man may not be able to pass urine while standing, so he would have to squat to prevent urine from shooting in the wrong direction.

Severe cases

In severe cases of penile fracture, the urethra, the pipe responsible for passing urine, gets damaged. This can lead to more dangerous situations including retention of urine, repeated urinary tract infections, and even kidney damage.

After quick first aid, an ambulance was called. I went in with the man, holding his damaged penis in my hand and pressing on the veins to avoid further bleeding. At the nearest hospital we found a surgeon and I was happy to hand over the patient. Penis surgery is not the domain of sexologists and, anyway, I was on holiday, too far from my clinic to do anything about it.

As we sat over a late dinner that evening, it occurred to me that cross-generational sex in which the man is significantly older than the girl is not just bad for the girl, the man is equally exposed to serious and sometimes rare risks like penile fracture.

"Stop looking at what other couples are doing and concentrate on your man," I told Goretty, looking her straight in the eye, "you nearly spoilt my holiday."

"Stop talking as if I am the cause of that man's ruptured penis," she replied, laughing at the top of her voice.

HEALTH&NUTRITION

BY SONA PARMAR MUKHERJEE

Signs of liver problems

Clinical nutritionist **Sona Parmar Mukherjee** explains what to look out for

Zainab was visibly upset when she came to see me with a fatty liver. She could not understand how she had ended up with liver issues, especially since she was a non-drinker and just 35. One of the things she was keen to know is whether she had missed any vital signs that would have alerted her to her condition earlier. That is what I want to share with you today.

As I told Zainab, the good news is that the liver has a remarkable ability to repair itself, so if problems are spotted early enough, it can make a full recovery.

1 . Fatigue: I am not just talking about being very tired; it is more like feeling weak and being constantly lethargic. You see, if your liver feels as if it is being overworked, the knock-on effects will take a toll on your entire body. This is because some of the toxins that your liver normally filters out are still floating around in your body.

2 . Sudden loss of appetite: You know how you do not feel like eating when you have malaria? Well, that is because the liver is involved.

3 . Super-sensitive skin: When you find yourself scratching a lot or if your skin is just irritating to touch, no amount of cream will help when there is an underlying problem.

4 . Strange-looking stool: While colour changes to your stool can be an indicator of many problems within the body, it is often a key sign with liver problems. Pale, bloody, or even black stool can be a sign of liver problems, so know your body and look out for any changes.

5 . Jaundice: This well-known yellowing of the skin can affect the fingernails and even the whites of the eyes. This is caused by the build-up of bilirubin, a pigment in bile, an essential substance in the digestion process. If your liver is having problems filtering the toxins that you ingest (whether it is through the digestive tract, the skin, or the respiratory system), bilirubin will start to collect in the bloodstream, thus giving you a yellowish hue.

To give your liver a break, drink a lot of water and eat lots of veggies and cut out toxins like wheat, dairy, caffeine, alcohol and fried foods.

www.nutritionbysona.com



HAIR&BEAUTY WITH IRENE NJOROGE-KRISTIAN

LEFT: A model undergoing the Microdermabrasion process with crystals at a spa.

BELOW: Microdermabrasion crystals kit



Great fix for acne scars and dark patches

Fade unsightly dark spots using microdermabrasion

One of the most stubborn skin problems faced by women is that of surface hyper-pigmentation, which occurs in the skin's top layer, the epidermis. This occurs after pimples have healed, leaving dark spots that take long to vanish. It also occurs as uneven skin tone around the eyes, cheeks, and forehead.

One of the most effective ways to treat superficial hyper-pigmentation is the microdermabrasion technique combined with pharmaceutical grade fade cream. Microdermabrasion is a mechanical exfoliating or skin-peeling facial that uses a controlled high-speed flow of micro-crystals. They are applied under pressure over the skin's surface using an applicator probe. This procedure gently breaks down the skin cells, which are then vacuumed away. The treatment helps to regenerate new skin cells, repair, and even out the skin tone. When this is combined with the controlled application

of specific creams, the result is often satisfactory. This being an advanced skin treatment, it is important that it be carried out by a trained practitioner. A person may need at least four sessions, depending on the extent of the pigmentation. This is determined after a consultation. Microdermabrasion is also helpful for pimples and acne.

PHOTOS: Martin Mukangu. Treatment courtesy of Lucy @ Agape Clinic, Wood Avenue, Kilimani, Nairobi. Tel: 0722987025. Model courtesy of Diances Agency.

ASK IRENE:

Which is the best cream to use for marks? – Agnes, Nairobi.

Select fade cream with two per cent hydroquinone, as stipulated by the Food and Drug Administration of the US. Use it strictly at night. In the morning, apply sunscreen SPF 15 or above.

The author is a cosmetology lecturer.

QUICKFIXES:

Instant cover-up

Are dark spots and patches getting you down? Here is a tip on how to cover them up instantly. Firstly, use good quality full coverage stick foundation or concealer, a small bristle brush, and translucent setting powder. Do not use coloured powder as this will make your skin appear caked. Using the brush, dab some concealer directly on to the spot or patch. Do not spread it further. Roll on the setting powder using a cotton pad and brush away any excess. Do not use the type of foundation or powder that does not offer full coverage as these will leave a coat on top of the marks without hiding them completely.

NATURALHAIRCORNER

All your natural hair questions answered.

Give your hair a lanolin treat

Q: Can lanolin be used on natural hair?

A: The short answer is yes. Lanolin is a natural waxy substance produced by the sebaceous glands of sheep. It protects their wool from the elements and keeps it soft and waterproof. Lanolin is used

as an ingredient in certain hair care products such as pomades, shampoos, and conditioners. It can weigh down wavy or curly hair and is best used on very coily hair similar to sheep's wool. Lanolin is highly effective

at penetrating the surface of the hair and it boosts the hair's moisture retention. It adds sheen, acts as a sealant, and helps define twists, curls, and sets. Use a small amount mixed with



carrier oil such as avocado or olive to smoothen and soften your hair during styling. Alternatively, you can use lanolin as a hot oil treatment once a month and rinse it out with cool water for prolonged sheen and manageability. Due to its intensive moisturising properties, lanolin also works well for women with chemically processed or colour-treated hair.

— TRICIA WANJALA

A model after undergoing the Microdermabrasion process using crystals.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Six tips to give you a business head start

I attended a forum for women in business yesterday. Many of the people also in attendance were not necessarily in business. Many of them were employees who wanted to know how to take the leap and become business owners. A few of us in business had casual conversations with them and these inspired this article. Maybe you have often wondered what it takes to take the leap. Maybe you do not want to do that now, but are thinking of going into business in the next couple of years. There is definitely a mindset shift required when deciding to become self-employed and it is only that actual act of taking the leap that will teach you certain fundamental lessons. Here are some of the points that came across from the conversations.

1 There is never a right time to leave your job

If you wait for everything to add up properly, it is just never going to happen. You are never going to have the perfect bank account balance. If you wait for the children to go to school, it is not going to happen. It is fine and even advisable to plan for it if you can, but you cannot plan forever. For example, if you decide you want to start this business in a year, you can plan to save a certain amount every month to give you a financial foundation. You can even use this period to brush up on certain skills or networks that may assist you. However, once that period is over, you need to actually start. You will feel as if you still do not have enough money, skills, or networks, but the greater lessons and resources will only become available to you once you are actually in the game.

2 Life will not be the same

In all probability you will not earn an amount equivalent to your current salary for a long time to come. Maybe you want to start a business because you admire people who have been in business for a while and want to have their lifestyles. What you do not see is the journey that these people have taken to get where they are today. You will not be able to spend money the way you used to. Going out for lunch or drinks may not come as easily as it once did. Even basic expenses may be a struggle. If you are thinking of going into business because of the perceived financial perks, do not leave your job. These usually come after a significant struggle. Go into business because you are convicted about a solution you want to provide.

3 You cannot ride on your employer's brand

If you are considering starting a business, here is what you need to know before you quit your job. By **Waceke Nduati Omanga**

This was a very hard lesson for me. I previously worked for a large financial services organisation. I had many clients and I assumed they would move with me to my small business. The clients did like me, but they liked the brand of the company that I was working for better. My work was a reflection of the company that employed me. So, you may have a skill that has been cultivated and nurtured in the organisation you work for. No one can take that skill away from you, but you will need to build your own profile and brand and that is where the hard work is.

4 Many people want to leave employment and start a business in that line

For example, an accountant may want to start an accounting firm. At your job, you were probably only doing accounting, but as the owner of the accounting firm you will have to find clients, deliver documents, collect payments, manage staff, and a lot of other tasks that do not necessarily involve actual accounting. Also, do not limit the business you can start to the qualification you have. If you were an accountant you can also

start a construction company. The attention to detail you used in accounting will assist you in your construction company.

5 Do not be discouraged by statistics

One of the most common statements thrown around is that four out of every five businesses fail. I do not have statistics but from my observation among the business people I know, I strongly disagree with this. The businesses do not fail but transcend. Many people start one thing, then end up doing something else. In my books that is not failing. In the process of doing the first business, they learn something or discover a different opportunity. They shut the first business simply to pursue the next one. This happened to me; I shut my stockbroking agency to pursue financial education.

6 Lastly, focus your resources on the key requirements of the business

In the large organisation you worked for, you got used to certain

resources. A receptionist, an office messenger, and assistants for everything. When you start a business spend only on the core things. There is no point having a receptionist if you do not even have enough client traffic to justify

No one can take away the skills that you nurtured while employed, but you will need to build your own profile and brand

one. Spend first on the things that directly get you clients. You may not even need an office as yet and if you do, it does not have to be the plushest you can find. Do not try to recreate the environment you had while you were employed.

Waceke runs a programme on personal financial management. Find her at waceke@centonomy.com | Twitter @cekenduati



RELATIONSHIPS

Is the wedding night overrated?

Five women share their experiences on what actually happens on a couple's first night as man and wife.

By Joan Thatiah

The wedding day is an important day in a woman's life and there is a certain expectation of magic on a couple's first night as man and wife. Virgins or not, it is supposed to be the first time that you truly belong to each other, but is the wedding night all that it is hyped up to be?

Five women share what really happened on their wedding night.

In bed alone

Brenda Gake's garden wedding in December 2012 was almost perfect. She looked dazzling, the weather remained agreeable, and all the suppliers came through.

"Every little detail seemed to be falling in place until we got to the evening party and one of my husband's friend's, who had been at the wedding with his wife and young daughter, showed up with another woman on his arm."

She felt that this was the wrong way to start her marriage and wanted to ask the friend to leave but her husband would not let her. When they got to the hotel room they were meant to spend the night before they left for their honeymoon, she picked up the fight again. She wanted to know why he insisted on keeping such friends if he did not endorse cheating. Her husband took this as an accusation. Harsh words were thrown around and tempers flared.

"He stormed out of the hotel room in a rage. I spent my wedding night alone crying in a hotel room while my husband went on a drinking spree around the town."

Little food, too much wine

"I was too excited to sleep," Adhiambo recalls. She and her husband had not even had a chance to eat the whole day. The first thing they did when they got to the designated apartment was to warm the food that their caterer had packed for them.

After the meal, Adhiambo went to freshen up. It was quite a task removing all the make-up and peeling off the wedding dress. She finally managed to slip on the lingerie that she had been saving for that night only to find her husband passed out on top of the bed still fully dressed in his tuxedo.

"It is beautiful but it can't be enjoyed with all the pressure."

"I spent most of the night staring at the ceiling and rerunning the day's events in my mind while my husband, who had had little food and too much wine, snored away beside me."

High expectations

Twenty-four-year-old Catherine Wanza said "I do" last March. Knowing what she knows now, if she could go back in time, she would wait to consummate her marriage. She was a virgin and from the stories she had read in magazines, she expected an earth-moving experience. She remembers being shy and nervous when she was finally alone with her husband and perhaps from the pressure and the high expectations, she describes it as a disappointing experience.

This first experience somewhat dulled her enthusiasm. She speaks about a few dull weeks in the bedroom before she finally found the beauty of intimacy with her husband in a more relaxed atmosphere.

"It is beautiful but it can't be enjoyed with all that pressure. If you are not up to it, you shouldn't feel pressured to consummate your marriage on the wedding night," she counsels.

The arranged marriage

For Mwende, 29, the emotion that reigned on her first night as a wife 11 years ago was resignation. You see, she was tricked into marriage. She was only 19 at the time and was living in her home village in Mbeere. She had been dating this promising young man for a couple of months and things seemed to be moving forward.

One Sunday afternoon, the young man invited Mwende to his house. When evening came, another young man whom Mwende had never met joined them. At night fall, Mwende's boyfriend left the house, locking the two inside.

"This was when I realised what was happening. According to tradition, if I spent the night in this man's house in that fashion, then I became his wife. My only other option was to raise the alarm or cause a scene, which would then trigger many questions. I decided to just go with it," she describes her first night married to a stranger.

The man went with her to her parents the next morning to inform them of her new status as his wife. Their marriage broke down after six years due to personality clashes.

Too sick for love

Betty and her husband had a civil ceremony three years ago. She was pregnant with their first child at the time. They then had a small party at a city restaurant for a few of their closest friends.

"By the time we got back to the house, I was tired and nauseous and all I wanted to do was sleep. Getting intimate that night would have felt like a chore," she says.

Luckily for her, her husband understood and let her go to bed as soon as they got home. He even placed a bucket beside the bed for her to throw up in if she needed to. Her husband, she says, spent most of their wedding night watching movies in the living room.



EATING&OUTING

Vegetarian restaurant with assorted delicacies

For fast service, to-die-for bhajias and a wide menu of non-meat delicacies to choose from, this is the place for you. By **Bon Vivant**

I had a chance to reconnect with an old friend over lunch at Slush recently. This had been a favourite haunt back in the '90s when we both lived around Westlands. I was vegetarian back then so this restaurant was perfect for a guilt-free treat.

We chose outdoor seating since both the ground floor and upper dining area were quite busy. Slush is popular mainly with the Asian community but a few other guests from different ethnicities were also present. The décor is simple and the premises quite spacious. A waiter quickly brought us a menu. It was rush hour, so he was either very efficient or in too much of a hurry. We asked for our old-time favourite — bhajias.

Customised pizza

He took the menu and was about to dash off, but we told him we still needed to order drinks. My friend ordered a fruit cocktail and I ordered their ginger and lime juice. When we indicated that they should not be too cold, he offered to warm the juices. We politely declined. Service is fast and my ginger and lime juice was super-fresh and it tasted great.

The bhajias are just as I remembered them — crunchy and well-seasoned. They arrived hot and the portions were medium-sized. Around us, family groups had ordered the large thin-crust vegetarian pizzas. These looked delicious, as did the popular "Happy eater sandwiches." In terms of ambiance, Slush is just okay. A plus is that it is well-lit. There is a separate children's menu and the washrooms upstairs, though not pristine, are clean enough.

The new menu boasts more than 10 types of pizza, including a build-your-own pizza on which you can customise ingredients. They also serve rice and noodle dishes, naan, paratha, Chinese dishes, Mughlai main courses, soups,



Slush Coffee House, Corner Plaza, Westlands, Nairobi

A plate of bhajia, kabab and sausage

subs, puris, and Mumbai street food. For a vegetarian restaurant, they offer an astonishing variety.

Their waiters are pleasant and efficient but ours kept on forgetting to bring our sauces. I had to ask for ketchup at least three times, and then tamarind sauce. I gave up on asking for raita (minty

yoghurt sauce) and indeed before I was done with my ketchup, he had picked it up and taken it to another table. Our bill came to about Sh1,300 which is quite fair. I would definitely eat here again, but I would request the management to invest in more sauces so that each table has their own!

MEET THE CHEF



Frederick Okinda, head sous chef, Great Rift Valley Lodge

How did you become a chef?

When I was young, my parents took me to the Safari Park Hotel for a meal. I was impressed and from that moment I decided to attend culinary school. It was not hard for me because I am artistic. I have worked at the Mara Intrepids Samburu Intrepids, Voyager Mombasa, South Africa, Tanzania, Switzerland and Mauritius

EATINGIN



Wholesome garden salad

Ingredients

3 leaves iceberg lettuce
3 leaves baby red oak lettuce
3 thin slices of cucumber
3 slices orange
5 leaves basil
5 slices beetroot (use mature ones; they are sweeter)
3 tomato quarters
5 peelings of carrot
3 pieces black olives

Method

Arrange the lettuce, add the cucumber, orange slices, basil leaves, beetroot slices, tomatoes, carrot peelings, and the olives and set aside.

Balsamic vinaigrette**Ingredients**

■ ½ cup olive oil
■ 1 tsp honey
■ 1 shallot, minced
■ Salt and ground black pepper to taste
■ ¼ cup balsamic vinegar
■ 1 tsp Dijon mustard
■ 1 clove garlic, minced

Method

Combine the olive oil, balsamic vinegar, honey, Dijon mustard, shallot, garlic, salt, and black pepper together in a glass jar with a lid. Replace lid on the jar and shake vigorously until thoroughly combined. Drizzle over the garden salad and serve.

— FREDERICK OKINDA

PHOTO: ITRICIA WANJALA

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ONLY 22 CALORIES PER RICE CAKE

Healthier Snacking!

Gluten Free • Transfat & Cholesterol Free •
Low in Sodium • No Artificial Additives, Preservatives or Colours.

TRAVEL & LEISURE

Lesser flamingoes with their chicks at Lake Natron. Photo by Sean Avery

GET TO NATRON

Remember to carry your yellow fever vaccination certificate for entry into Tanzania. From Namanga, drive to Arusha (better to spend a night here), then to Mto wa Mbu and turn right. You need a four-wheel-drive vehicle with good clearance to reach Oldoinyo Lengai and Natron. It is a three-hour drive on a road that has never been tarmacked. There are a few campsites at Engaruka and Ngare Sero — just show up because network is unreliable. There are barriers between Mto wa Mbu and Ngare Sero, where you have to pay an entrance fee of about \$20 per vehicle. (We went through three.) Natron is 1,040 square kilometres. It is great country for hiking, mountaineering, or even just birding. But it is hot, so ensure that you have plenty of water, shade, and good guides to show you around.

While at this spectacular soda lake you can camp, hike, or just enjoy the beautiful flamingoes.

By **Rupi Mangat**

Ware driving through a rich tapestry of dry flat plains in the Great Rift Valley with craters and volcanic mountains that still spew lava. On the horizon, a sheet of water appears and I think it is Lake Natron, but it turns out to be En'garuka — a smaller lake that is not patronised by as many flamingoes as Natron.

Threadbare landscape

In the early hours of the morning, the local Maasai bring out their livestock in search of pasture and water. It is a threadbare landscape save for where the seasonal rivers flow into the lake that turns crimson when two million lesser flamingoes migrate annually to breed along its crusty sun-baked shores.

We drive across a dry riverbed of weathered soft grey volcanic ash from Lengai. Across the plains, zebra and Thomson's gazelles graze on the scanty straw-like grass and a lone ostrich appears just as we get our first view of Natron with spirals of dust devils rising in the super-hot air. Nothing grows along Natron's shoreline. The water is of no use for cattle, the people, or



Landscape enroute to Lake Natron



Maasai Ngare Sero village near Lake Natron

the sparse wildlife, so the lake has remained isolated and ignored and until recently, it has been the private abode of the lesser flamingo.

I picture being at the Tanzanian lake that just touches the southern edge of Kenya. But at this point, we are only going to make it to Ngare Sero, a Maasai trading post that sits at the base of an escarpment. It is near a freshwater stream where women with their donkeys, weighed down with yellow plastic jerry cans, are either making their way to or from the stream. Huge fig trees give the only shade in this parched land.

It is an hour's walk to the lake and in this heat, I am not in any mood for that. I seek refuge under one of the few trees in the village, listening to

children from Lake Natron Secondary School perform a skit.

I have actually touched the waters of Lake Natron from the Kenyan side — approaching it from Lake Magadi — its sister lake in Kenya that lies a few kilometres away with only an international boundary separating them. The flamingoes do not know this and migrate along the lakes of the rift to breed, feed, and drink.

Natron has been their lake of choice for centuries because of its remoteness and rich supply of their favourite food — Spirulina algae, that also colours them crimson red. They fly to Baringo and Naivasha to drink fresh water and filter in their sole food, algae in lakes Magadi, Nakuru, Bogoria, and Turkana. The

Tanzanian government wants to develop Lake Natron for industrial use. The previous attempt would have destroyed the composition of the alkaline lake and its breeding ground. It is interesting to learn that Lake Natron was first reported to the outside world in 1954 — though the local Maasai already knew about it.

"It's a Ramsar site," says Ken Mwathe of Birdlife International, who spearheads the Lake Natron Consultative Group. "So the Ramsar secretariat has asked for an integrated plan to ensure that the lesser flamingoes survive. Otherwise, the flamingoes will become extinct within our lifetime." Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance. It is a grim warning. Lake Natron is a spectacular lake — red along its edges because of the algae, soda, and salt. Its name derives from the Egyptian town of Wadi El Natrun in Egypt, from where natron (soda ash) was mined in ancient Egypt for mummies.

I hope there will be a balance because to give up flamingoes to mine soda ash for something as mundane as washing powder for export is a sad story. As we drive out, a truckload of tourists unload their vehicle and pitch their tents to spend a few days savouring Natron's splendour.

www.rupimangat.org

Send your feedback to satmag@ke.nationmedia.com

MUST DO LIST**EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

September 20

Storymoja Festival 2014**presents: Silence is a Woman**

Silence is a Woman by Sitawa Namwalie explores the many ways in which our silence imprisons us and makes us complicit in our own alienation. The show is about the silences in our homes, our work, our politics, and our relationships. Directed by Alice Karunditu.

Venue: Louis Leakey Auditorium, Nairobi National Museum

Time: **Show starts at 7pm; doors open at 6pm**

Ticket: **Sh1,000**

Contact: **0702 024848**

September 19 - 21

Pride Pesa Show 2014

The Pesa Show is an important platform

bringing together over 40 financial institutions under one roof. There will be free classes on how to manage your money.

Venue: **Sarit Centre**

Time: **9am**

Contact: **0708 804664**

September 18 - 21

The East Africa Housing &**Construction Expo**

The expo will provide a platform for property developers, financiers, real estate agents, interior designers, manufacturers, and suppliers to showcase their products and services.

Venue: **Thika Road Mall, Convention Centre, 3rd floor**

Time: **10am**

Compiled by **WANGUI THUO**

LOVE IS ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

Cecilia, 44, from central Kenya, works as a subordinate staff at a secondary school. She's a mother of a grown-up daughter. She is looking for a serious life partner aged 45 years and above. He should be financially stable and single and if widowed have grown up kids. HIV test is mandatory. If interested and serious, call/SMS **0726 245 625**.

Vicker Prislisy, 47, from Ohio, US is a doctor working in Somalia but operating from the border at Mandera due to insecurity in Somalia. I am the chief party of all the donations being supplied as aid in Somalia, and I need a lover. If interested call/SMS **0722 486 329**.

Ann, a 40-year-old civil servant living near Nairobi, wishes to meet and settle down with a strictly single gentleman from the GEMA community, aged 40 to 44 years. Send a detailed profile which includes full names, age, place of residence, profession, marital status, and the kind of relationship you are looking for. Send an email to leticiahjay@gmail.com.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

Martin Johnson, 42, from Australia works with the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Africa. He would like to meet a mature and god-fearing African lady aged 30-42 years, for a relationship that may lead to marriage. If interested e-mail johnsonmarti

n910@yahoo.com. Call/SMS **0719 309 376** or **0787 251 998**.

Joe, 30, works with the Ministry of Education in Nakuru. He seeks a beautiful lady aged 19-25 years. She should be a non-smoker, shouldn't be a drinker, and should be a virgin ready for marriage. Text/call **0737 315 905** or e-mail Joekamh83@gmail.com.

I'm Brenner, a 54-year-old single white man from Belgium with two teenage children, a boy and girl. I work with a charity foundation and I believe that when two close honest hearts unite, the positive product is a blessed relationship. If interested contact **0739 065 316**.

Are you a nurse, accountant or a teacher? Do you dream of a blessed family? I'm Mwangi, 32, a never-married, HIV-negative stable junior chef with no kids. I'm looking for a professional working lady who is mature, humble, prayerful and financially stable and who will love me. She should be aged 25-32 years have with no kids. Call **0770 284 680**.

Ogura, 48, is a single employed Kenyan. He is ready to receive a Muslim or Christian woman who will be ready to beat cultural differences in the relationship like partner's culture, values, traditions and boundaries. Contact **0739 065 316**.

AGENCIES

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Get confidential dating at Datefind. For Kenyans/foreigners who need suitable love and marriage partners, SMS or Whatsapp your profile (e.g. name, gender, tribe, age, education level, career, residence, HIV/marital status, number of

kids, religion, weight/height, complexion) and a profile of lovers/relationship needed. Or SMS "Love" to **0722 244 271** or 0722 898 939 or 0733 222 008. www.datefindsingles.com

Gracious Partners of P.O Box 26317-00100 provides dating/counselling services exclusively to HIV-positive persons. Are you HIV-positive and looking for love, relationship, company or just friendship? Our hundreds of members of all ages from 18 come from all regions, professions, tribes and faiths. To get matching contacts, write/call/SMS/ your profile to **0701 958 665** or email graciouspartners@gmail.com.

Auntie Ruth, a family therapist, connects you with world-class singles. Meet James, an educated moran from Samburu approaching his thirties. He wants a white lady from any part of the world for holy matrimony. Visit us: Kenda House, Tom Mboya Street, 1st floor, room 4A. Call/SMS **0721 861 034, 0726 416 143**. Email: ruthkihara2030@gmail.com www.auntruth.kbo.co.ke

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